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VOL. XIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 414.] LONDON: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1853. [PRICE 6d., WITH A SUPPLEMENT

TEMPERANCE LINE of PACKETS from LONDON to AUSTRALIA.—For ADELAIDE and PORT PHILLIP, the splendid, new, first-class ship LUCONIA, 960 tons burden, to sail in October. This very beautiful vessel sustains the high character which this line has hitherto borne. Her 'tween decks are 7 feet 6 in height, with ample width of beam, carries a surgeon, and is fitted with baths and washhouses. A well-selected library will be put on board. — For Freight or Passage apply to GRIFFITHS, NEWCOMBE, and Co., 27, Rood-lane, Fenchurch-street, London.

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TO EARNEST, UNEMPLOYED CHRISTIANS.—WANTED, in the Snowsfields Sunday-school, corner of Suffolk-place, Snowsfields, Bermondsey, Three Teachers (Two Females) to teach interesting classes in a neighbourhood distinguished, at present, for its spiritual darkness.—Apply, any Sunday Morning, Afternoon, or Evening, to the Superintendent or Secretary, at the above-mentioned place.

TO GROCER'S ASSISTANTS.—An opening now presents itself for a Young Man of respectability, not less than 25 years of age, of first-rate business habits. He must be active, obliging, industrious, and persevering; and it is hoped none will apply whose character will not bear the strictest inquiry. To a young man of the right sort a permanent situation and liberal salary will be offered.—Apply, stating particulars as to age, experience, &c., to N. A., Messrs. Travers and Sons, Swithin-lane, London.

ISLINGTON.—A PUBLIC MEETING will be held for the Appointment of Delegates to the approaching Anti-state-church Conference, at the BRITISH SCHOOL-ROOMS, DENMARK-TERRACE, BARNSBURY-ROAD, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, 26th inst., at Half-past Seven o'clock. ROBERT DENCE, Esq., will take the Chair. Rev. Basil H. Cooper, J. C. Williams, Esq., N. T. Langridge, Esq., and other gentlemen, will address the Meeting.

JOHN TEMPLETON, Honorary Secretary.

FUTVOYE and Co., 154, Regent-street, Jewellers, Dressing-case makers, &c., desire the inspection of the nobility, gentry, and public to their new and elegant STOCK, comprising every novelty for use and ornament. Gold watches, four holes jewelled, horizontal escapement, warranted, £4 4s.; silver watches, £2 10s.; solid gold chains, of their own manufacture sold at per ounce, and the fashion only charged. The gold in the chains, and in all articles of jewellery, guaranteed and repurchased at the price charged. Splendid new assortment of bracelets, rings, &c., designed expressly for them by native and foreign artists. Every description of plate or jewellery purchased for cash, or taken in exchange.

KING EDWARD RAGGED SCHOOL, SPITALFIELDS.—TO-DAY, 19th, and TO-MORROW, 20th, the BAZAAR, in Aid of this Institution, at the MILTON-CLUB, LUDGATE-HILL.

THE MINISTER'S FRIEND or ASSOCIATION FUND, for assisting Evangelical Dissenting Ministers, whose Incomes are inadequate to their support.—A MEETING of the Subscribers to the above Society will be held at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, BLOMFIELD-STREET, FINSBURY, next TUESDAY EVENING, 25th October, 1853, at Six o'clock precisely, to receive the Report and appoint officers. W. HUNTER, Esq., Alderman, in the Chair.

BOARD and LODGING in EDINBURGH is offered to Two Young Gentlemen who reqnire to prosecute their studies at the COLLEGE of EDINBURGH. Terms moderate.—For particulars, apply, free, to ROBERT TODD, Engraver, Luton, Bedfordshire; or to Mr. REID, 2, George-place, Edinburgh.

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T. SHORT, Secretary.

A CATALOGUE of ANCIENT COINS, MEDALS, NUMISMATIC BOOKS, &c., with price affixed to each, will be sent GRATIS to any Gentleman, on enclosure of two penny stamps for its postage, applying to FRED. LINCOLN (son of W. S. Lincoln), Cheltenham House, Westminster-road, London.

YOUNG MEN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION, in Aid of the Baptist Missionary Society.—The ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will occur at the Baptist Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street, on THURSDAY EVENING, October 20, 1853.

The Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock, by the Hon. and Rev. BAPTIST W. NOEL.

E. Miall, Esq., M.P.; the Rev. Messrs. Trestrail, Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society; Middleditch, of Frome; Dowson, of Bradford; Haycroft, of Bristol; and Capern, Missionary from the Bahamas, are expected to address the Meeting.

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On MONDAY the 24th, and 31st, at the MILWELL LITERARY INSTITUTION.

On TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, in the LAMBETH VESTRY HALL.

Applications from Secretaries of Literary Societies and others, for the delivery of these Lectures, should be made without delay, by letter, addressed to W., the care of Mr. Freeman, 69, Fleet-street.

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.

PUBLIC MEETINGS for the appointment of Delegates will be held:—

To-MORROW, at Gloucester, to be attended by the Rev. Basil H. Cooper, of London, and the Rev. Charles Short, of Swansea.

On MONDAY next, at the Literary Institution, Borough-road, Southwark, at half-past 7, to be presided over by Apsley Pellatt, Esq., M.P., and addressed by the Revs. George Rose and R. S. Bayley, J. Thwaites, Esq., Mr. J. Carvell Williams, and others.

On WEDNESDAY next, at the Denmark-terrace School-rooms, Pentonville, at 7 o'clock.

On FRIDAY, October 28, at the Educational Institute, Stockwell.

On MONDAY, October 31, at the Stepney Meeting School-rooms.

Individuals wishing to arrange for meetings, or requiring information relative to the appointment of Delegates, are requested to communicate with the Secretary immediately.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

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NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL, RAMSBURY-ROAD, CAMDEN-ROAD, CAMDEN NEW TOWN.—The Committee of THE BAPTIST METROPOLITAN CHAPEL BUILDING SOCIETY beg to inform their Subscribers and Friends that the FOUNDATION STONE of the above Chapel will be laid, D.V., on THURSDAY, October 20, at Two o'Clock, by S. M. PETO, Esq., M.P.

The address will be delivered by the Hon. and Rev. W. B. NOEL, M.A.

Dinner will be provided at HIGHBURY BARN TAVERN, at Half-past Three, and the following Gentlemen have been invited, are expected to be present, and take part in the Meeting to be subsequently held; viz., Revs. W. Brock; J. H. Hinton, M.A.; J. Aldis; W. G. Lewis; F. Trestrail; J. C. Harrison; Henry Dowson, Bradford; H. S. Brown, Liverpool; and J. Pewtress; E. B. Underhill and W. H. Watson, Esqs.

Tickets, admitting to the dinner, price 3s. 6d., including fees to waiters, and omnibus from Ramsbury-road to the Tavern, may be obtained at the Baptist Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street; of Mr. R. Cartwright, 57, Chancery-lane; and 129, Camden-road-villas; and Mr. C. S. Searle, 29, Poultry.

GEO. W. FISHBOURNE, Secretary.

CITY OF LONDON FREEMEN'S ORPHAN SCHOOL, Shepherd's-lane, Brixton.—The Corporation of London having obtained an Act of Parliament for establishing a School for Orphans of Freemen of the City of London, have erected a spacious school-house upon freehold land in the above-mentioned locality, and having referred it to a Committee to carry out the provisions of the statute,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Committee will be ready on and after the 25th instant to receive APPLICATIONS from the Mothers, Guardians, or Friends of Orphans of Freemen of the City of London for ADMISSION into the SCHOOL, according to the prescribed form, which may then be obtained, on application at the Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall, London.

N.B.—The objects of this charity are children of Freemen of the City of London who are orphans by the death of their father, and are without adequate means of maintenance and education. Those are especially eligible whose parents were reduced in circumstances by casualties which they could not avert.

No children are eligible who are under the age of seven or above the age of ten years; who are maintained at the parish charge; afflicted with an infectious distemper, or any disease deemed incurable; who shall be lame or otherwise unable to take care of themselves, or who have not had the small-pox or have not undergone vaccination, and are not in a satisfactory state of health.

MEREWETHER.

Guildhall, Oct. 14, 1853.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION of ENGLAND and WALES. — Order of Services for the AUTUMNAL MEETINGS of the Union, to be held in MANCHESTER, on MONDAY, the 24th instant, and the three following days.

On MONDAY Evening, DEVOTIONAL PREPARATORY MEETINGS will be held—the one in Rusholme-road Chapel, where an address will be delivered by the Rev. George Smith, of London; the other in Hope Chapel, Salford, with an address by the Rev. W. Guest, of Leeds. Each Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

On TUESDAY Evening, A UNITED MEETING will be held in Cavendish-street Chapel, for the Illustration of Congregational Principles, and the advocacy of British Missions. Mr. S. Morley in the Chair.

On WEDNESDAY Evening, a SERMON will be preached in Cavendish-street Chapel, by the Rev. Thomas Adkins, of Southampton. Service to begin at half-past Six o'clock.—On the same Evening, a MEETING in favour of the objects of the English Congregational Chapel Building Society, will be held in Grosvenor-street Chapel. The Chair to be taken by Mr. Kershaw, M.P.

On THURSDAY Evening, the Rev. R. Fletcher, and the Rev. J. L. Poore, will be designated as Missionaries to Australia, in connexion with the Colonial Missionary Society, in a PUBLIC SERVICE, to be held in Grosvenor-street Chapel. To begin at half-past Six o'clock.

On FRIDAY Morning, a PUBLIC MEETING in aid of the Board of Education, will be held in Cavendish-street School-room. Mr. Barnes, M.P., in the Chair.

The SESSIONS for BUSINESS will be held on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY Mornings, in Grosvenor-street Chapel. The Chair will be taken by the Rev. John Alexander, of Norwich, the Chairman of the Union, at half-past Nine o'clock.

Ministers or Delegates intending to be present at the Meetings, and requiring hospitable entertainment, are requested to send their names and addresses, without delay, to the Rev. A. E. PEARCE, Manchester, or to the Rev. GEORGE SMITH, Congregational Library, Finsbury.

GEORGE SMITH,
ROBERT ASHTON, } Secretaries.

London, October 10, 1853.

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CHARLES PIDGEON begs to inform his Friends and the Public, that he has Opened his Premises, situate 210, Regent-street, with an ENTIRELY NEW STOCK of SILKS, SHAWLS, MANTLES, FURS, RIBBONS, &c.; also a variety of Novelties suitable for the present season, for which he solicits an early inspection.

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The Lady Mayoress.

A SALE of USEFUL and ORNAMENTAL ARTICLES, of various descriptions, will be held on Wednesday, the 19th, and Thursday, the 20th October instant, on the Premises on Ludgate-hill, about to be occupied by the Milton Club, by permission of the Committee.

Tickets of Admission, One Shilling each, obtainable at Nisbet and Co.'s, Berner's-street; Seeley's, Strand; Ward and Co.'s, Paternoster-row; Jackson's, Islington; Meade and Powell's, Whitechapel; and the undersigned,

H. R. WILLIAMS, Hon. Sec.,
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Doors open from Twelve to Eight p.m., each day. Children accompanying their friends admitted free.

SINGING for SCHOOLS, HOMES, and CONGREGATIONS.—The TONIC SOLFA ASSOCIATION have pleasure in announcing the following Meetings at FINSBURY CHAPEL, ADMISSION FREE. The Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock each Evening.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18.—Illustrations of Psalmody, accompanied by remarks on the hymns and pieces sung. The Choir will sing a selection of tunes, chaunts, and anthems. The Rev. WM. BROCK, of Bloomsbury Chapel, will preside.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21.—Brief Suggestions on the Musical Recreations of the People, and the Best Means of Counteracting the Baneful Influence of Public-house Concerts. Vocal Illustrations by the Choir. The Rev. J. TREVETT, M.A., Incumbent of St. Philip's, Friars'-Mount, will preside.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25.—A Lecture on the Influence and Proper Use of Vocal Music in Education. This Lecture will be illustrated by a number of children from various schools, taught on the Tonic Sol-fa method, who have taken certificates of simple sight singing. The Rev. A. FLETCHER, D.D., of Finsbury Chapel, will preside.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28.—A Lecture on the Tonic Sol-fa Method of Teaching to Sing, with an Introductory Lesson. The Choir will sing several pieces at the commencement and at the close. SAMUEL LINDER, Esq., Treasurer of the Association, will preside.

The Lectures and Explanations will be given by the Rev. JOHN CURWEN. Books of the words and music to be sung will be sold at the doors. Full programmes may be obtained of Messrs. WARD and Co., Paternoster-ro .

Donations and Subscriptions are earnestly solicited. They may be forwarded to Mr. ROBERT GRIFFITHS, Plaistow, Essex, Hon. Secretary.

FIVE GUINEAS.—Mr. HALSE, the Medical Galvanist, of 22, BRUNSWICK-SQUARE, LONDON, informs his friends that his FIVE GUINEA APPARATUSES are now ready.

Send two postage-stamps for his Pamphlet on Medical Galvanism.

BANK of VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.—The LONDON and WESTMINSTER BANK are prepared to ISSUE, at their Head Office in Lothbury, LETTERS of CREDIT and BILLS at Thirty Days' Sight upon the Bank of Victoria, Melbourne, Port Phillip, and upon the Branches of that Bank at Geelong and Belfast at a charge of 2 per cent.

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W. H. BONNER, Secretary.

THE BUDGET OF 1853.—In strict conformity with the REDUCTION of the TEA DUTY, A. HIND has constructed his Scale of Prices, and invites public attention to the following quotation:—RICH PEKOE LAPSANG SOUCHONG, such as E. I. Company used to bring over, 3s. 8d. per lb.; HIGH-SCENTED and rich-flavoured flowery ASSAM, reduced from 4s. 4d. to 4s. per lb.; our choice Mixture of the best Black and Green Teas, comprising all the excellences of the richest and rarest productions of China and Assam, judiciously blended, 4s. per lb.; OUCHAIN YOUNG HYSON, HYSON, and PEARL GUNPOWDER, 5s. 8d., 5s., 4s. 8d., 4s. 4d., 4s., 3s. 8d., and 3s. 4d. per lb. All these are of the primest quality, and most delicious flavour. Lower qualities at proportionably reduced prices.

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Purchasers of C. and L.'s celebrated Stamped Soaps will have the full amount of benefit accruing from the repeal of the duty.

FERN ACRES, in the PARISH of FULMER, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE (Four Miles from the Slough Station, on the Great Western Railway).

Mr. ABBOTT is instructed to SELL by Auction, on the Premises, at 11 for 12 o'clock, on Thursday and Friday, October 27th and 28th, 1853, by order of the Executor of the late Captain Spilling (the estate being sold), all the genuine Furniture and other Appendages to the Villa, exquisitely beautiful and elaborately carved Indian Drawing-room Suite, a Semi-grand Horizontal Pianoforte by Collard, in Rosewood Case, nearly new, Chinese Curiosities, rich Cut Glass, China and Earthenware, Household Linen, numerous Kitchen Requisites, and Dairy Utensils, a very handsome and exceedingly valuable thorough-bred Mare, a good Pony, about Ten Tons of Hay, Garden Tools, and other Effects. The Public View Day on Wednesday, the 26th of October. Catalogues may be had, on and after the 20th of October, on the Premises; of Mr. Stranson, Auctioneer, Uxbridge, and Fern Acre Cottage; at Mr. Abbott's Offices, 26, Bedford-row, and Eynesbury, St. Neot's, Huntingdonshire; and one will be forwarded by post to all Applicants by Letter enclosing Four Postage Stamps.

DR. KING'S SARSAPARILLA COCOA.

TO those under a course of Sarsaparilla this COCOA will be found an excellent beverage, instead of tea or coffee (which decidedly excite the nervous system, and prevent medicine, particularly Sarsaparilla, from having its desired effect). Invalids with weak stomachs will receive more benefit from this pure Cocoa than any preparation, being made with true Cocoa Nibs, combined with pure Sarsaparilla, and rendered more palatable.

In Packets, at 1s. 6d. per lb., or 3 lbs. for 4s.

To prevent fraud, HENRY HIBBS has caused his name to be put upon each packet, and without which none is genuine, and to imitate which is felony.

Sold by all respectable Medicine Vendors in the United Kingdom, and by the Proprietor, at his LABORATORY, 10, HUNGERFORD-STREET, STRAND, LONDON

NATIONAL FREEHOLD-LAND SOCIETY.

WEEKLY REPORT, October 15, 1853.

	Last Totals.	During the Week.	Present Totals.
Cash received.	£589,890 18 6	£5,150 19 11	£595,041 18 5
Shares issued.	64,607	534	65,231

VALID SHARES DRAWN DURING THE WEEK.

49,421, 39,197, 37,505, 35,537, 55,897, 23,229, 55,282, 63,881, 37,639, 42,165, 54,971, 45,756, 52,988, 49,609, *61,082, *61,085, 50,830, 57,366, 7,938, 63,055, 54,259, 41,811, 44,338, 20,075, 42,317, 47,821, 38,543, 47,303, 34,548, 45,864, 49,463, *56,867 to *56,874, 43,075, 41,821, 40,761, 43,124, 3,761, 12,397, 28,072, 51,033, 35,967, 4,020, 60,880, 47,988, 27,564, 14,326, 58,140, 24,441, 21,404, 25,213, 64,896, 56,335, 52,370, 20,042, 44,416, 6,561, 9,269, 60,993, 14,209, and 39,934.

* Grouped.

The shares numbered 57,115, 5,106, 36,625, 2,213, 25,490, 24,583, 41,050, 53,875, 29,163, 58,090, 39,815, 53,642, 34,315, 43,151, 34,556, 30,465, 31,759, 13,549, and 36,103 were also drawn, but as the subscriptions thereon were in arrear, the holders thereof have lost the benefit of this drawing. Copies of the Prospectus, Rules, and last Annual Report, may be obtained at the Office, or by post, gratis.

W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.

14, Moorgate-street.

TEETH.—By Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent. Newly invented and Patented application of chemically prepared WHITE INDIA RUBBER in the construction of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, Gums, and Palates.—Mr. EPHRAIM MOSELY, Surgeon-Dentist, 61, Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square, Sole Inventor and Patentee. A new, original, and invaluable invention, consisting in the adaptation, with the most absolute perfection and success, of Chemically Prepared WHITE INDIA RUBBER as a lining to the ordinary Gold or Bone Frame. The extraordinary results of this application may be briefly noted in a few of their most prominent features, as the following:—All sharp edges are avoided, no springs, wires, or fastenings are required, a greatly increased freedom of suction is supplied, a natural elasticity hitherto wholly unattainable, and a fit, perfected with the most unerring accuracy, is secured, while from the softness and flexibility of the agent employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose, or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums. The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically prepared White India Rubber, and, as it is a non-conductor, fluids of any temperature may, with thorough comfort, be imbibed and retained in the mouth, all unpleasantness of smell or taste being at the same time wholly provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation.—To be obtained only at

61, LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, LONDON.
22, Gay-street, Bath.
34, Grainger-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne

TO INVALIDS.—PUBLIC ATTENTION having been directed by the Medical Journals to the Extensive Adulterations and Exorbitant Charges for Medicines of Inferior Quality, WILLIAM T. COOPER informs Invalids that the Purest Chemicals and the Finest Drugs are alone used at his DISPENSING ESTABLISHMENT, 26, OXFORD-STREET. No Apprentices are employed; competent Assistants only are engaged. The preparation of Prescriptions is carried on entirely distinct from the Retail Business. The Prices are invariably moderate. Medicines are despatched immediately they are Prepared, without any Additional Charge, to St. John's Wood, Bayswater, Notting-hill, Fulham, Pimlico, Camberwell, City, Islington, Camden-town, Kentish-town, and all intermediate distances.

PRESCRIPTIONS forwarded by Post will receive immediate attention.

WILLIAM T. COOPER, Chemist, Dispensing Establishments, 26, OXFORD-STREET.

THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 414. LONDON: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1853. [PRICE 6d., WITH A SUPPLEMENT.

CONTENTS.

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS:—
The Victim of State-churchism Released ... 829
Anti-state-church Conference Intelligence ... 829
City of London Freeman's Orphan School 830
Religious and Educational 830
Correspondence 831
Foreign and Colonial News 832
The Arctic Navigators 833
Cholera in the Metropolis... 834
The Cotton Strikes..... 834
Crimes and Casualties 834
Disasters at Sea 835
Court, Personal, & Political 836
Miscellaneous News 836
Postscript 837
POLITICAL:—
Summary 838
The Edinburgh Peace Congress 838
The New Chapter in the History of Arctic Adventure..... 839
Correction and Caution... 840
Our Proposed Change of Name 840
Public Meeting of the Peace Congress 841
Henry Drummond, M.P., on the Peace Question..... 844
Literature 844
Facts and Facetiæ 845
Births, Marriages, & Deaths 846
Money Market and Commercial Intelligence 846
SUPPLEMENT.
The Peace Conference in Edinburgh 849
Anti-Slavery Conference... 855
Mr. Gladstone at Manchester 856

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE VICTIM OF STATE CHURCHISM RELEASED.

MISS CUNNINGHAME is at liberty. The Duke of Tuscany has succumbed under the pressure brought to bear upon him by our Foreign Office. The priests have been robbed of a victim, and a lady of singular courage and religious devotedness has been rescued from the hands of a persecutor and a tyrant.

It will be needless for us to express our admiration of that self-forgetfulness (for such we believe it was) which permitted the zeal of a young lady to give utterance to her own religious convictions, when danger to herself might be reasonably apprehended. We have no sympathy with the cant of the day, which ridicules every effort to do good abroad, simply because there is much good yet remaining to be done at home. It is cowardice, not prudence, which prompts silence and inaction, whenever to speak or to do is attended with peril. Miss Cunninghame was consistently acting the part of a true Christian woman. The sole fault found with her, even by the ribaldry of the press—never so active, we observe, as when religion behaves herself nobly—is that, in going to Italy, she chose to take her faith and piety along with her. She dared, when there, to do as the good and the true have always done before her, to seek the communication to others of what she prized for herself as God's best gift to men. She was denounced by a priest, and imprisoned by a Grand Duke. It is not clear that she apprehended any such outrage, but when it surprised her she bore herself as became a lady of her professions. No man has a right to hint that she coveted notoriety, or panted after martyrdom. The facts of the case, so far as they are known, warrant no such suspicion; and to have treated her conduct as proceeding necessarily from any such motive, argues a dastardly spirit, as well as an utter inability to comprehend the power over character of an elevating faith.

We have no fault to find, either, with the prompt and energetic use by our Foreign Secretary of all the moral force at his command to secure Miss Cunninghame's liberation. We know not yet what may have been the tone of Lord Clarendon's remonstrance, but we rejoice that it has had the desired effect.

Having said thus much with heartiest goodwill, we must express our dissent from the doctrine implied, rather than formally expressed, in the public discussion of this subject, that Great Britain is bound to follow with her protection, into every country on earth, those of her subjects who nobly dare to set at defiance the laws of other states, in their attempts to diffuse the religious truths they hold. When France, under Louis Philippe, took vengeance upon Tahiti for attempting to prevent the exercise of their functions by a few Roman Catholic missionaries, everyone cried out against so glaring an infraction by a stronger power, of the national rights of a weaker one. The logic of the case does not suddenly become reversed, because, instead of France we have England; instead of Queen Pomare we have the Duke of Tuscany; and in the place of Roman Catholic priests we have a Protestant lady. We cannot consent, as many have done, to blow hot and cold with the same breath. Circumstances, indeed, may alter cases; but circumstances do not alter principles. Unless we are prepared to blow to pieces by cannon and gunpowder every barrier which despotism may think fit to erect against Protestantism and freedom, we do not see how we could justify the forcible interference of our Government on behalf of all its subjects who seek the extension of their faith, in opposition to the laws of the country in which they may chance to abide.

This affair, like all others of its class, shows the impropriety, and illustrates the scandal, of arming the priests of any nation with the power of the sword, or rather, of allying the religious and the political under the same management and power. Miss Cunninghame has been the victim of the State-church system. To put an end to persecution we must put an end to that.

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE INTELLIGENCE.

Those who intend sending delegates to the Conference should bear in mind that a fortnight only remains for carrying such intention into effect; and that it is important that the labours of the Committee in London should not be increased at the last moment by notifications of delayed appointments. The following nominations have been reported since our last:—

Halifax—
Rev. E. Mellor, M.A.
Mr. John Edwards.
Rochdale—
Mr. Edward Miall, M.P.
T. Southworth, Esq.
Rev. W. F. Burchell.
Edmund Ashworth, Esq.
Bradford—
Edward Kenion, Esq.
J. Craven, Esq.
Rev. J. H. Ryland.
Burnley—
Rev. S. B. Schofield.
W. S. Kennedy, Esq.
John Maddock, Esq.
Rev. J. Pulsford.
Henley—
Rev. J. W. C. Drane.
Thomas Pidduck, Esq.
Darwen—
Rev. G. B. Johnson.
James Wardley, Esq.
Folkestone—
R. W. Boarer, Esq.
Rev. John Skinner.
Worcestershire Baptist Association—
Rev. T. Bumpus.
Mr. W. Matthews.
Bosham—
Rev. J. Hockin.
Rev. J. Youngman.
Mr. H. N. Barnett.
Mr. C. Warmington.
Lymington—
Mr. Charles S. Miall.
Luton—
Robert How, Esq.
Newcastle and Gateshead—
Mr. James Potts.
Stoke Newington, Kingsland, and Dalston Committee—
Charles Gilpin, Esq.
Mr. W. G. Pocock.
Banbury—
R. H. Rolls, Esq.
Rev. W. T. Henderson.
Ebenezer Wall.
Plaistow—
Rev. John Curwen.
Mr. John Burton.
Gosvell-road—
Mr. John Powell.
Mr. Thomas Powell.
Weigh-House Sunday School Teachers—
Mr. J. E. Saunders.

The following additional signatures have been appended to the Conference paper inserted in our columns a fortnight ago:—

Henry Kelsall, Rochdale.
George Ashworth, „
David Illingworth, Bradford.
Richard W. Goddard, „
W. S. Kennedy, Burnley.
John Maddock, „
Thomas Pidduck, „
S. B. Schofield, „
Samuel Asbury, Shelton.
H. Angus, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
George Harris, „
W. Martin, Altringham.
G. W. Harrison, Wakefield.
Isaac Schofield, Sheffield.
R. Goodacre, Nottingham.
Aaron Gould, Bilson.
Arthur Anderson, Norwood.
J. A. Savage, Wilsden, Bingley.
J. Richards, Stourbridge.
B. Beckhouse, Scarborough.
Alexander Syme, Nottingham.
B. Copeland Etheridge, Bolton.
R. Best, „
W. H. Davison, Bolton.
Joseph Osborn, Dunstable.
J. Gutteridge, „
John Everett, „
David Arthur, Aberdeen.
David Young, D.D., Perth.
D. Morton, „
William Lindsay, „
John Pillans, „
William P. Knowles, „
Charles Law, „
W. H. Griffith, B.A., Chard.
Isaac Bass, Brighton.
Charles Billson, Leicester.
John Batchelor, Cardiff.
W. H. Darby, Wrexham.
J. R. Proctor, North Shields.
William Barnard, Stroud.
Thomas Roberts, Gloucester.
J. F. Bontems, Hemel Hempstd.
Samuel Lillycrop, Windsor.
W. G. Barrett, Royston.
Thomas Davies, Lambeth.

Some errors occurred last week in the names of gentlemen connected with Cambridge. Charles J. Foster, LL.D., of London, appointed a Delegate, was misdescribed as "Rev."; and among the signatures should have been those of Henry J. Foster, Esq., and A. G. Brimley, Esq.

HALIFAX.—A very large meeting, says the *Halifax Courier*, which contains an excellent report, was held in the Odd Fellows' Hall, Halifax, on the 10th inst., for the purpose of electing Delegates. Alderman Crossley presided, and the speakers were the Rev. Messrs. Cockin, Hoyle, and Stock, Messrs. Miall, Edwards, and Martin. Several of the speakers alluded to the encouraging signs of the times. Mr. Stock referred to some articles which had recently appeared in the *Times* on the subject as remarkable, not because the *Times* was consistent, but because it was most sagacious in noting the symptoms of popular opinion. Mr. Edwards said that everything showed that they were making great progress, and that people were opening their eyes to the fact that compulsion in religious matters was contrary to the spirit of Christianity. Mr. Miall, speaking of the House of Commons, said—"Even there, there is a large proportion of anti-state-church sentiment, not yet fully and thoroughly displayed because the time is not yet ripe for it, but which will one day possibly astonish the inhabitants of this country. Let us get a new reform bill, and this anti-state-church question will occupy a far different position in the legislature than it has ever yet done. In the intercourse which I have had with members of that house, the opinion which is not manifested is far riper than that which is. There is a general sympathy in that house for many things which tends towards all religious equality. All we want is that the people of this country should be thoroughly instructed; if they once take up this question in earnest, as I hope they will ere long, there will be no difficulty with the House of Commons, for as the people are so will be the representatives of the people."

BRADFORD.—The most interesting and successful meeting which has been held by the Anti-state-church Association at Bradford, took place on Friday last, in the Temperance Hall, which was so crowded that numbers were unable to find admittance. Alderman Brown presided; and in introducing the business of the evening said that Bradford, from its great and increasing population, and from the preponderance of Dissenters, ought to take a high position in this agitation. He read a letter from Dr. Acworth, of Horton College, expressing strong sympathy with the objects of the meeting, which he was unable to attend on account of ill health. Mr. Goddard moved the first resolution, which acknowledged the increasing claims of the association for support. He compared the influence of a State Church upon a nation to that of ivy on an old building which generated nuisances, darkened the windows, and let in the rain. Sentimentalists pronounced it beautiful, and wished new buildings to be adorned the same way; some said, "Let it alone," the evil will cure itself; some said, "Don't cut it down, but clip it." This only made the ivy grow more rank and coarse than ever. The only remedy was to cut it down to the ground. He said that the State Church had always been the opponent of political and social progress—having opposed the Reform Bill, the Repeal of the Corn-laws, and Sanitary Reform, and three times thrown out the Jewish Emancipation Bill. Rev. F. Stephens, in seconding the resolution, expressed great pleasure in having an opportunity for the first time of pleading the cause of the society, in which he had long felt great interest. The resolution was then put and carried by a large majority, though a considerable number of Orangemen had assembled to oppose.—The Rev. Henry Dowson moved the second resolution, appointing Edward Kenion, Esq., Joseph Craven, Esq., and the Rev. J. H. Ryland, as delegates to the approaching Triennial Conference, designed to revise the constitution and plans of the society, so as to unite more closely the friends of the cause for determined and energetic action. Their opponents, he said, were unfair in objecting against them that they were political, as those opponents had placed the question on political grounds.—Edward Miall, Esq., M.P., rose to second the resolution; and as some of the Orangemen made themselves conspicuous by noisy interruptions and coarse low remarks, he advised them always to stand by the system of which they approved, whatever majority there might be against them, but not in such a way as to show that their zeal was great but their judgment not very correct. He wished the working men clearly to understand that the friends of the Anti-state-church Association sought no sectarian ends, but only

those which were national and for the benefit of all. He would rather give up all he believed than violate any principle of morality to sustain his own mode of worship. Their cause was assuming a more commanding attitude. It was popular in the country. It was so in the House of Commons, more than those who merely read the papers would imagine. So liberal were the expressions of opinion which he had heard from men of all sections, that he hardly despaired of any one but the member for Lincoln. The Conservatives were now somewhere between where the Whigs and Radicals were ten years ago. Members were more independent than they used to be. There were a few stout honest men known to the Government and Opposition as Anti-state-church men. Around them was a broad belt, which was constantly permeated by their principles. A large proportion of the Liberal members were prepared for vigorous action on the question as soon as the constituencies should press the subject upon them. They were disgusted with the revelations of corruption in high places under sanctimonious pretences of regard for the working clergy. They saw that whilst other institutions were being influenced by the spirit of the age, and made more in harmony with the dictates of reason, the Church remained as she was 200 years ago. At the close of Mr. Miall's speech, Mr. Clarke moved an amendment; and, amongst a variety of objections, principally urged the danger to Protestantism which would result from separation. Mr. Miall answered him; and the motion was carried by a vast majority—after which, thanks were voted to Mr. Miall and the Chairman.

COUNTRY DELEGATES. — We understand that, acting on the suggestion of a correspondent, some of the society's London friends have expressed their willingness to entertain delegates from the country. As there is still plenty of scope for the display of such hospitality, we again refer to the subject, suggesting that both those disposed to exercise, and those who may desire to receive it, should place themselves in communication with the secretary without delay. The committee, we learn, will invite the delegates to a soiree, to be held at the Whittington Club, on the evening of the second day of the Conference.

CITY OF LONDON FREEMAN'S ORPHAN SCHOOL.

At the meeting of the Court on Thursday, Mr. Deputy Hale said that, seeing that his friend Mr. Gilpin had given notice of a motion "That the resolution of the Court of the 28th of September last, 'That the Head Master of the City of London Freemen's Orphan School be a clergyman of the Church of England,' be rescinded, and that the general rule be altered accordingly," he took the first opportunity that presented itself of saying that, in order to avoid all dissensions of a religious tendency among the members of the Court, he (as Chairman of the Committee) should not object to the word "clergyman" being omitted, and the following words substituted for the original resolution:—

That the Head Master of the City of London Orphan School shall be elected from such three candidates as shall be specified to best qualified for the office by the Head Master of King's College School, London, or the majority of them [hear, hear].

Mr. Gilpin: I am quite certain, that it is not necessary for me to assure the Court, still less is it needful for me to assure my friend, Deputy Hale, that my object in giving notice of this motion was in no way whatever to hamper the Committee, was in no way whatever to prevent them from using their efforts on behalf of the Corporation in a way that seemed to them best suited to carry out the object in view [hear, hear]. My object was simply to prevent the Court placing upon themselves a restriction which the Act of Parliament does not require. I have very little doubt, that the party receiving my vote may be a minister of the Church of England; but all that I asked for was, that the Court should have now, henceforth, and in future years, an opportunity of choosing the best man for the purpose in question [hear, hear]. I am bound to acknowledge the courtesy with which my proposition has been met by my friend, Deputy Hale; and I have no hesitation whatever in saying, that his proposition is better than my own. As far as I individually can, I accept the proposition of my friend; I am sure he must feel great satisfaction when he considers what he has done with a view to promoting the various schools of this metropolis, and that in reference to this particular subject he has, by yielding on this point so far as he has done, given up a resolution which he might, perhaps, have carried, but which would unquestionably have been carried by an exhibition of feeling and of sentiment in this Court which we shall agree had better be avoided [cheers].

Mr. Gresham objected, that if the proposed compromise were carried into effect, the election of Head Master would virtually be taken out of the hands of the Court.

Mr. Alderman Wire could not agree to the amendment proposed, for the reason assigned by Mr. Gresham [hear, hear]. Supposing that two of the three happened to be Puseyites, what sort of an election would the Court have? [hear, and laughter.]

The Lord Mayor observed, that it would always be in the power of the Court to rescind the resolution, if come to, before another election.

Mr. H. Taylor was surprised at the objection taken by the Alderman, whom one would have supposed would have been the last in the Court to have attempted to prevent the motion of his friend Mr. Gilpin being carried. One would have thought that a gentleman so distinguished among the Dissenters would have been most anxious that the selection should be thrown open, so that all persons professing religion, and all denominations, should have the same opportunity of seeking the distinguished honour of being Head Master of the new orphan school. He (Mr. Taylor) was therefore astonished to find Mr. Alderman Wire an advocate for the Head Master being a clergyman of the Church of England.

Mr. Alderman Wire: No, no.

Mr. H. Taylor: He had as much confidence in the judgment of the three gentlemen named to select fit and proper candidates, as he had in the general body of the Court.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The salary of the assistant master was fixed, after much controversy, at £100 a-year.

THE MORNING POST ON CHURCH-RATES.—"When the House of Lords decided against the validity of the Braintree church-rate, we predicated that it would produce an entire alteration in the relation of parishioners to their parish church throughout the country. This is in process of being brought about. In a very short time no parish in the kingdom will grant a church-rate. This is one of those subjects to which politicians should give their attention before the meeting of Parliament, for it is as clear as noonday that the anti-church-rate feeling is spreading more widely every day, and that, unless some definite equivalent be provided by law, the Church will have been robbed of one of her most important sources of revenue, the providing which was one great object of her incorporation with the State, and is the basis on which, and on which alone, the law has any right to prescribe what parishioners may claim of their parish church and parish priests."

PROSPECTS OF CHURCH REFORMERS.—The Rev. S. G. Osborne, in a pungent letter to the *Times*, assures those who have written to him about the late presentation of an old man between eighty and ninety to the living of Rougham, in Norfolk, that it is far from his intention to devote himself "to the endless and unthankful task of exposing the inconsistencies, weaknesses, or worse characteristics, of the episcopal bench." People who are shocked at such things can, he says, only petition Parliament, the Archbishop, and the Queen, urging them, "for the sake of decency and justice," to remedy such a state of things; or, if they feel, like himself, "that the cry of vested interests will outweigh that of insulted religion, they can only do as others will soon be driven to do—quit the Church, and seek means of worship and instruction elsewhere." "Mitre worship—mitre awe, is, alas! a wide-spread failing." "In the army or navy the whole service would have been convulsed with disgust had such exposures of avarice, inconsistency, and cowardice, been made of any army or navy magnates. But with us there is a machinery always ready to uphold our chief officers in their peccadilloes—nay, if necessary, to give them, at the shortest notice, condolence when they are exposed!"

ST. BARNABAS AND ITS INCUMBENT.—The paragraph in our last, under this head, refers, we are informed by the *English Churchman*, to St. Barnabas in the parish of St. Luke's—not St. Barnabas of Pimlico.

A CHURCH-RATE REFUSED AT SHEERNESS.—A vestry meeting has been held in this parish, for the purpose of considering the propriety of making a church-rate; the churchwardens produced the estimate, and asked for a rate of 1d. in the pound. An amendment was proposed by Mr. Richard Brightman, seconded by Mr. Sansom, and very ably supported by the Rev. Edward Price, that it was inexpedient to make a rate. Upon a show of hands being held up, it was declared the amendment was carried. The curate of the parish, the Rev. Charles Hill, was in the chair, and upon a poll being demanded, claimed it as his prerogative to fix the time and place of polling, whereupon the vestry declared it was their province to do so, and it was moved that the two following days be the time to be specified for the poll to be taken of all the parishioners. The rev. gentleman said he should fix four days; the vestry contending that it was their right, called upon him to put the resolution. This he refused to do, whereupon he was moved out of the chair, and another chairman, viz., Mr. John Gorham, appointed, when the resolution was put and carried almost unanimously. The polling continued for two days, and ended in a majority of 128 against making a church-rate, thus adding another to the list of places which has refused to make church-rates.

Religious and Educational Intelligence.

MISSIONS IN CHINA AND INDIA.

The London Missionary Society is preparing to avail itself of the new opportunities for propagandism opened up by the revolution in China. At a Quarterly Meeting of Town and Country Directors, held at the Mission House, Tuesday, October 11, 1853, convened especially to consider the present state and prospects of China in relation to Christian missions, it was unanimously resolved:—

1. That the statement now read, containing a brief review of the society's operations in China, be extensively published forthwith.
2. That the present state and prospects of China demand from the friends of the London Missionary Society the most energetic measures, with a view of adding at least ten new labourers to the present number of its missionaries in that empire.
3. That it be referred to a special committee to consider and adopt the most vigorous and expedient measures for raising the funds necessary for carrying into effect the preceding resolutions.

The Government grant of £600 a year to certain Hindoo temples near Madras has been discontinued; £1,800 a year are said to be allowed to the temples on the hills of Parbhuttee in Poona. Balaram Gunput, whose death was caused by poison, was, it seems, buried in a Christian cemetery, as the ceremony of circumcision had not been performed on him, and he was not, therefore, looked on as a Mohammedan. The poor man's mind had been very unsettled for some time before he left the Mission-house, and took up his abode in the Mohammedan mosque. The death of another convert named Bala Gopall has been announced. This man was, in reality, a disciple of Christ, and was one of the most amiable and unassuming young men I ever fell in with. He was studying physic, and had nearly passed through the College, when, from over-study, his brain became affected, and he fell a victim to his extreme thirst after knowledge —*Daily News Bombay Correspondent.*

BATTLE BRIDGE.—The foundation of a new Congregational church and schools, at the junction of Bagnigge-wells-road with the New-road, was laid on Tuesday, by S. Morley, Esq. The plan of the building is a parallelogram, and the external dimensions seventy-three feet in length by fifty feet in width. The structure will be of materials corresponding in durability with the importance of so valuable a freehold site. The edifice will be faced externally with Kentish rag; the dressings and decorations are to be of a beautiful material known as "Ransome's patent siliceous stone." The style is that known as the "Early English." The schools are to afford accommodation for 800 children, and occupy the entire area beneath the chapel. The architect is Mr. Henry Hodge, of Kentish-town, and the contractors are Messrs. Rowland and Evans, Islington. The proceedings commenced with a hymn by the Rev. C. Gilbert, secretary of the Congregational Chapel Building Society; Mr. Seavill read Haggai i.; Mr. Harrison offered up prayer; Mr. Richardson, of Tottenham-court Chapel, gave out another hymn; Mr. Morley performed the ceremony, and addressed the spectators. He spoke in high terms of Mr. Seavill, the intended minister, and observed that if all the existing places of worship in the locality were filled, there would still be wanting accommodation for 80,000. After another hymn Dr. Leifchild spoke.—At seven o'clock a public meeting was held in Tonbridge Chapel; Enos. Smith, Esq., presided. A statement was read by the Rev. T. Seavill, showing that the amount of contributions to the Building Fund of the Battle-bridge church and schools, including a promised grant of £500 from the Chapel Building Society, was £2,000, and that upwards of £1,500 more would be required before the building operations could be completed. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. E. Cornwall, Rev. C. Gilbert, T. Spalding, Esq., the Treasurer, Rev. J. C. Harrison, Rev. John Rogers, Edward Swaine, Esq., Rev. T. G. Horton, Rev. J. W. Richardson, Rev. Owen Clarke, and the Rev. John Nunn.

SYDNEY-STREET, BETHNAL-GREEN.—On Wednesday, the 5th inst., the Rev. T. J. R. Temple was publicly ordained pastor of the Independent church assembling in the above place of worship. The Revs. R. Saunders, J. B. Talbot, S. Eastmen, H. S. Seaborn, and T. W. Gittens, conducted the service.

OPENING OF THE NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN JEWRY-STREET, WINCHESTER.—The past week (says the *Hampshire Independent*) has been one of no ordinary interest to the Congregational Dissenters of Winchester. On Sunday evening the Rev. W. Thorn, pastor of the church, which has hitherto met for public worship at their chapel in Parchment-street, took for the subject of his last discourse to his people there, a history of Congregational Dissent in Winchester. It appears that a church of Congregational Nonconformists had existed in Winchester for about 200 years. They first met in a room in Cheesehill-street, on the side near the Weirs; and when, under the operation of the Act of Uniformity of Charles the Second, in 1662, so many of the clergymen of the Church of England resigned their livings rather than subscribe to the Book of Common Prayer, or take the oath of canonical obedience, they invited the Rev. Mr. Tompkins, the rector of Crawley, to become their pastor, which he did. In 1704, two gentlemen who resided in Parchment-street, each gave a piece of ground adjoining each other, and a chapel was built, each gentleman having a private entrance to the gallery from his own house. The cause had to struggle hard against the preponderating influences which have always existed in Winchester, and one time, but for the exertions of Dr. Bogue, of Gosport, the chapel would have passed into the hands of the Unitarians. In 1807 the chapel was rebuilt, and though as in former times there was an occasional ebb, yet good men were found who kept the lamp burning. Mr. Wooldridge, a deacon of the chapel, had on more than one occasion been known to come and open the chapel of a week-day evening, give out the hymn, sing, pray, and go through the whole services, he being the only person there. During Mr. Thorn's pastorate of twenty-seven years, the church had increased nearly ten-fold. On Tuesday morning the new chapel in Jewry-street was formally opened. The Rev. John Morison, D.D., of London, preached the first sermon. After morning service from fifty to sixty gentlemen sat down to dinner at the George Hotel; and in the afternoon from four to five hundred persons partook of tea in the new British School-room, at the back of the chapel. In the evening, the Rev. James Sherman, of Surrey Chapel, London, preached. The receipts for the building fund during the day amounted to about £80. The new chapel is of unique design, in the early English style. It combines lofty elegance with excellent arrangement for a congregation of 800 persons. At the rear is a school-room, fitted for the instruction of several hundred children; and above, forming three sides of a quadrangle, are separate residences for the master and mistress, class-rooms, &c. It is admitted by all observers that, on a somewhat limited space, Mr. Poulton, the architect, has succeeded in giving, both in effect and accommodation, all that could be desired, and it reflects great credit on him for his professional taste and rare ingenuity. The

gross cost is expected to be £4,000, of which sum about £1,300 has still to be raised.

CAVENDISH CHAPEL, RAMSGATE. — The Rev. B. Copeland Etheridge, of Bolton, having received a cordial and unanimous invitation from the church worshipping in the above chapel to become their pastor, has accepted the same, and intends commencing his stated labours there on Sunday next.

NEATH, GLAMORGANSHIRE.—The Rev. D. Davies, B.A., has received a unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the Independent church in this town.

SUFFOLK CONGREGATIONAL UNION.—The autumnal meetings of this association were held at Bury St. Edmund's on the 13th and 14th inst. The introductory sermon was preached by the Rev. J. H. Haas, of Nayland; the union sermon by the Rev. Henry Gill, of Haverhill; and addresses were delivered by the Rev. John Burges, of Melford, and the Rev. James Jenkins, of Stansfield.

HAY.—The ordination of Mr. D. Davies, from Brecon College, took place at the Independent Chapel, on the 11th and 12th inst. On the former evening the Rev. R. Jones (Rhayader) and the Rev. D. Davies (Builth) preached. The following morning the Rev. T. Davies (Llandilo) delivered an address on the nature of a Christian church. The Rev. C. Guion (Brecon), the Rev. W. Jones (Gore), and the Rev. E. Davies, M.A., classical tutor of Brecon College, took other parts of the service. After dinner, the Rev. David Griffiths, the former minister of the place, gave a brief sketch of his labours at Hay. He formed the church, built the chapel, and was able, through the liberality of friends in England and Wales, to clear off a debt of nearly £1,100. He would not have resigned his ministry at Hay but for the important work which he had engaged to accomplish—to revise and carry through the press the whole of the Malagasy Scriptures. He is the only survivor of those missionaries who planted Christianity in Madagascar. In the afternoon the Rev. T. Davies (Llandilo) gave an address. In the evening the Rev. David Griffiths preached to the church; when he had closed his discourse, Mr. Fayster, one of the deacons, in the name of the church and friends at Hay, presented him with a silver cup, as a token of their respect to him. The Rev. H. Griffiths (Glamorgan-street chapel, Brecon) preached to the congregation.

WAKEFIELD.—The Rev. J. Stuchbery, B.A., late of Manchester, has accepted a cordial invitation to the pastorate of the church and congregation of Zion Chapel, Wakefield, and intends to commence his stated labours in that place on the first Sunday in November.

EMSWORTH, HANTS.—On Thursday last, the church and congregation worshipping in the Independent Chapel, Nile-street, celebrated the anniversary of the ordination of their pastor (Rev. E. Jeffery) with a public tea-meeting. After tea a meeting was held, over which the pastor presided; when addresses were delivered by the Revs. T. Sainsbury, of Chidham; J. Robinson, of Emsworth; N. Woodcock, of Finchdean; and Mr. C. Dennis, of Nutbourne.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—On Tuesday, the 12th, a tea-meeting was held in the Independent Chapel, to welcome the Rev. R. C. Pritchett, on his settlement as pastor there. R. Ash, Esq., of Clifton, in the chair. The meeting was addressed by the Revs. Rodway, Castle, and Pritchett; W. D. Wills, Esq., Dr. Ash, and Mr. Cox. On the following evening, the public recognition of Mr. Pritchett took place. The Rev. H. Quick, of Taunton, preached.

NEWPORT.—The fifth anniversary services in connexion with the New Independent Chapel, St. James's-street, were held on Sunday, the 9th inst., when two sermons were preached by the Rev. J. L. Poore, of Manchester (a native of Carisbrooke), and who is shortly to sail for Melbourne, Port Phillip. The collections at the close of the services amounted to upwards of £20. On Monday a public tea-meeting took place at the Queen's Rooms, when speeches were delivered by the Rev. J. L. Poore, W. Jones, Proggate, and other ministers and friends.

Correspondence.

THE "MAINE LAW."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The "Maine Liquor Law" is one of the topics of the day. Allow me briefly to allude to it in your columns. It is a law to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors, and is designated the "Maine Law," from being first enacted in the State of Maine. There it was passed by the voice of the people a few years ago, since which drunkenness, and its concomitant evils, pauperism, ignorance, and crime, have so very much decreased, that eight other states of the American Union have adopted it. The law is popular, simply from the good it effects, or rather, from the evil it *prevents*. An agitation for a measure of a similar restrictive character is commenced in Great Britain, and for the same reasons as in America. It will be a laborious and gradual work to arouse the people of England to a sense of the wrongs inflicted upon the nation by the use of drink. The evils are become too familiar:—

> "Vice is a monster of such hideous mien,
> As to be hated needs but to be seen;
> But seen *too oft*, familiar with its face,
> We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

The argument that will arise with every Englishman against such a law is, that it will interfere with our personal liberty.

"But no," to quote the words of Professor Stowe, "it has nothing to do with a man's private affairs; it has nothing to do with the interior of a man's family; it is an act to prevent drinking and tippling-houses—an act to put an end to the traffic in intoxicating drinks. Any man, if he can get liquor, or make it, may use it in his family: but it shall not be sold."

Interfere with our personal liberty? And is not that already done by the compulsory payment of police rates, jail or county rates, and the more serious item of poor rates, for which alone I am compelled to pay about £10 per annum? I would not grumble at the payment of this were it for the relief of "honest poverty;" but I do murmur when I remember how paupers, as well as thieves and vagabonds, are manufactured by the public-house, the gin and beer-shop system which exists in this country. The "Maine Law" forbids a trade so fraught with evil; and surely it is preferable for the law to step in and say, "You shall not sell," than it is to allow such liquor to be broadcast o'er the land, and, when it has produced *its fruits*, then for the law to say, "Now you shall pay for the mischief done." Interfere with our liberty, stop the traffic to prevent the evil, rather than allow the evil, and then interfere with our liberty to cure it.

I am, respectfully,
FRANCIS J. THOMPSON.

Bridgwater, Sept. 27, 1853.

TUSCAN AND WESLEYAN INTOLERANCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—The *Nonconformist* of the 5th inst. states, that deputations from the Protestant and from the Evangelical Alliance have recently waited upon Lord Clarendon, with reference to the case of Miss Cunninghame. The Rev. Messrs. Beecham, Rule, and W. Bunting, Wesleyan ministers, were among the members of these deputations.

With what consistency these gentlemen can interfere with the Duke of Tuscany for prohibiting a lady from circulating books of which he disapproves, will puzzle many a Wesleyan Reformer. These gentlemen are members of the Wesleyan Conference—a body that is as much opposed to free discussion as the Duke of Tuscany himself; and that, as far as English law will permit, has not been behind the Duke in the severity and barbarity of the means it has employed to maintain what you have called its "baleful tyranny." In its resolve to put down freedom among the Wesleyans it has spared neither age, character, nor sex; as not only have maidens, like Miss Cunninghame, but "mothers in Israel," felt the tyrannous power of the Conference. One supernumerary preacher was, by authority of the Conference, banished forty miles from Bristol, at great pecuniary loss, and domestic inconvenience, because his wife had spoken disrespectfully of that "venerable assembly," the Conference. A leader, among the grave charges on which he was excommunicated, was indicted for leaving a tract, advocating Reform principles, at the house of a member. What is this but acting the part of Tuscany in England, by the priest instead of the prince? At the last Conference, the Rev. George Southern, with a wife and seven children, was expelled, and thrown, not into prison — the Conference has not power to do that — but upon the wide world, for the Tuscan crime of publishing his opinions, in a calm and Christian spirit, upon Wesleyan laws. The same ecclesiastical assembly accepted the resignation of the Rev. George Steward, rather than allow him, as the condition on which he proposed to remain in its connexion, to write freely, as a Christian minister, his views on Church polity. Hundreds of members and of office-bearers, of exemplary morals and piety, long standing and of great usefulness in the Church, females as well as males, have been expelled by the Conference, for doing, amongst British Wesleyans, what Miss Cunninghame has been doing among Tuscan Papists—endeavouring to circulate what was deemed scriptural truth among those who were deemed in serious error. Most correctly and expressively have you yourself represented the fierce determination on the part of the Wesleyan Conference to have no Wesleyan Cunninghames; and if any dare show the spirit of one, to exercise its "godly (Tuscan) discipline," without any more regard for public opinion than his Highness of Tuscany has for that of heretics. Your words are—"Not a thought must stir, not a tongue wag, nor a pen be handled, against its supremacy (Conference), but straightway it falls to cursing the offender, and, precisely as of old, turning him 'out of the synagogue.' To immorality it is indulgent—upon the prostitution of wealth to corrupt purposes it looks with a lenient eye. But let no man drop a hint which even seems to reflect upon its own supremacy! The Conference has no mercy for such. It has its divinely-appointed mission to fulfil, and that mission is to rule without responsibility, and to nip off every bud of spiritual independence. Its spirit is congenial with its task. It revels in vindictiveness. It licks its lips over new victims. It surveys with pride the desolation which itself has made, and breathes out new threatenings and slaughter. Grim, ferocious, boastful of itself, savage to its opponents, it lifts its Pharisaic eyes to heaven, and thanks God that Methodism is not as other isms are."

Had your pen been describing Popery even in Tuscany, it had been difficult to give a more accurate picture of the intolerant and persecuting spirit of the Duke and his ecclesiastics. Before the Wesleyan Trio appeared among deputations to protest against continental and Roman Catholic persecution for conscience sake, these reverend gentlemen ought to have washed their hands of the same intolerance, in which, as members of the Wesleyan Conference, they are deeply involved. They will have liberty for Protestants in Tuscany, but not for Wesleyans in Britain. They denounce the exercise of anti-Christian laws upon foreigners, but they enforce their own unscriptural laws upon their own brethren. Messrs. Beecham, Rule, and Bunting, called upon Lord Clarendon to interfere with Tuscany on behalf of one lady, but they refuse to receive at Conference a deputation of Reformers on behalf of 55,000 memorialists, and another deputation of Mediationists, representing upwards of 2,000 office-bearers! Let them open the doors of Conference to the Wesleyan public at least; let them allow free discussion on their own Conferential acts; let them abandon the authority of "Minutes of Conference," and appeal alone, in maintenance of discipline, to the Holy Scriptures; let them listen respectfully to the claims of thousands of their brethren, who are ready, in a Christian spirit, to support their claims by an appeal to the Word of God alone; let them repudiate their dogma of the Divine right of the pastorate, whereby, in the judgment of such men as Isaac Taylor, they stand side by side with Puseyites and Papists; let them cease to expel from their body, men whose only crime is, that they have written a tract or letter, "unanswered and unanswerable," against ecclesiastical assumptions; or let them, for very consistency's sake, never appear among deputations to condemn in others what they do themselves.

Yours, very faithfully,
Derby, October 6, 1853. W. GRIFFITH, JUN.

MORAL AND SOCIAL STATE OF JAMAICA.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Having for upwards of ten years been a missionary in Jamaica, with very extensive opportunities of becoming intimately acquainted with the inhabitants of that island, it was with equal sorrow and surprise that I read the article from the *Leeds Mercury*, in a recent number of the *Nonconformist*, on the moral and social condition of the Jamaica peasantry. I cannot allow myself to believe that the statements of the Rev. R. Jones, whose speech is appealed to as indubitable authority, could have been correctly understood. Surely a glowing and somewhat unguarded address has excited some yet more glowing imagination; and so a combination of infelicitous circumstances has sent forth descriptions which are not true to fact. The esteem I for many years have had for Mr. Jones constrains me to think that the article in question will cause him unmingled regret. I have no doubt that he can adduce sufficient *isolated* facts to justify all that he has really said, or *meant* to say. The triumphs of the gospel in Jamaica, even as now beheld, are sufficient to make every Christian and philanthropic heart to glow with enthusiasm for missionary enterprise, and for perfect and universal liberty. The mighty transformation effected—the great multitudes of converts—the amount of zeal displayed—the occasional instances of great devotedness to the Saviour—all, of necessity, fill the observer with admiration and delight. Nor less do the results of emancipation, as such, rejoice and satisfy the heart. Did it consist with my present object, I could detail almost innumerable facts which have impressed the names of my former friends, as with lasting light upon my mind—sable friends whose names and deeds and fervent love will never be forgotten. I have truly seen, in Jamaica, "the grace of God," and been glad. But there are *two sides* to the picture. The work is not yet done. That land is *still* a scene of toil—a field for mighty and continuous strife. The labourers there bear as much as ever "the burden and heat of the day." The *Leeds Mercury* speaks of a perfect victory, both as to religion and civilization. It proclaims the working of a miracle such as the world has never witnessed, and one which, from my heart, I wish I could attest. The whole article, however, really conveys a very false idea of the state of society, and of the character and extent of Jamaica Christianity.

That "the coloured population have all embraced the Christian religion" is certainly not the fact. There are tens of thousands who never frequent a place of worship, nor make any kind of pretension to religion. They are grossly superstitious and immoral; and, did any one ask me for a fair sketch of their character, I should request him to read for his enlightenment the first chapter of the Epistle to the Romans, from the 24th verse to the end. That these all hold the Christian religion "intelligently, and with a depth of interest and of feeling much surpassing what is known in England," I must also deny. There are very many intelligent, humble, and laborious Christians, but there is a larger number who, with all their regard for public ordinances, are exceedingly ignorant, formal, and superstitious. They require perpetual tuition at the hands of their ministers, rather by means of social intercourse than by public preaching. A vast amount of evil still lurks in their domestic life, but I am glad to be able to testify that they (that is, the Christians) generally receive with gratitude the counsels given them upon such subjects, and act upon them with promptitude. Some of the missionaries have found it necessary to appoint regular days for seeing the members of their churches, in order expressly for considering, with inquisitorial minuteness, the domestic arrangements of each family, and pointing out the sources from which great and grievous evils arise.

Again, I confess myself startled at the assertion that "each man has his own wife, and supports his own family; immorality is almost unknown!" I will say no more on this point than that it is the last statement I could have thought possible from one who had lived in Jamaica, as descriptive of the people.

It may be true of the neighbourhood of Chapelton, where Mr. Jones has laboured so successfully, that "the children received almost universally a day-school education for which the parents pay 3d. a week per child," but it is not true of Jamaica generally. When I left the island in 1851, parents were exceedingly indifferent to the education of their children, and still more regardless of the duty of paying for any instruction which they might receive. As far as my own knowledge extended, the great majority attended no day-school whatever, "Christian villages" too may have been formed, although totally unknown to me; but if "*all* the coloured population" are so deeply imbued with Christianity as the *Leeds Mercury* represents, it is strange that they should ever have been thought necessary. The description of the "good house' equally fails to represent the generality of negro dwellings. Many it is true may be found of a similar kind, but there are thousands of dark and dirty thatched cottages with only two rooms for the accommodation of an entire family, the members of which too often sleep promiscuously without regard to sex or age. The account which is given us of the dress of the people is only true of the Sabbath and holiday attire. In their common life few English persons would consider them, as a class, sufficiently attentive to decent clothing. One of the first indications of their want of money I have usually traced in their unsightly, ragged, and insufficient raiment. The "poor," it is true, are generally supported by their friends and relations; but there are many cases of heartless desertion, and many individuals who would perish for want were it not for the relief afforded them from Christian churches, and from the parish. That "the blacks are close students of the Bible" is another misrepresentation of the people, as a people; and strikingly illustrative of the aptitude with which many listeners to public speeches infer universal characteristics from isolated facts. It would be equally true to say "*the English* are great Hebraists—thorough Nonconformists—and earnest teetotallers."

"*The admirable and beautiful state of society*," I grieve to say, is pure fiction; and that "*some*" of the black people attend the Established Church is another error. In short, a greater amount of misrepresentation I have scarcely found thrown together within similar compass. Most heartily do I acquit the *Leeds Mercury* and Mr.

Jones of any intention to mislead the Christian public, whilst I complain of unguarded and untrue exhibitions of the general condition of the black population in Jamaica. Let your readers carefully ponder the brief reports of the several churches in the "Western Union" which they will find in the *Missionary Herald* of the Baptist Missionary Society for September and October, and then judge of this elevated piety and universal Christianity. As but a specimen or two I give the following:—At Brown's Town thirty-three persons were excluded last year for various sins. At Stewart Town exclusions were mournfully numerous, even old and tried members having backslidden. The Dry Harbour Church repeats the complaint. At Refuge forty-nine had dishonoured their profession. At Rio Bueno there were *fifteen excluded for fornication!* The pastor of Bethtephil has gathered more than a *hundred backsliders* into one class; whilst the Church on Salters-hill reports a clear decrease of fifty-six members!

In conclusion, I beg leave to say I am deeply affected with the great and glorious issues of missionary and philanthropic exertions in Jamaica, and only send you the previous remarks for truth's sake. I remember with great esteem and sincere love those *with* whom and *for* whom I have been privileged to labour, but I cannot forget that the missionaries and churches of that island are even now enduring great trials, and suffering for lack of that help from England which was too suddenly withdrawn.

I remain, yours, &c.,

Ramsey, Hunts., Oct. 6, 1853. P. H. CORNFORD.

Foreign and Colonial Intelligence.

TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

We have now intelligence from Constantinople to the 5th inst., including the manifesto of the Sultan on declaring war—for the earliest copy of which the English public are indebted to the *Daily News*.

The tone of this document is that of anxiety to justify to the moral sense of Europe the step announced. It waives as superfluous a repetition of the "diverse phases" of the existing "difference."

The principal points to which the Government of his Majesty the Sultan desires to give prominence are these:—That from the very beginning his conduct has furnished no motive of quarrel, and that, animated with the desire of preserving peace, he has acted with a remarkable spirit of moderation and conciliation, from the commencement of the difference unto the present time. It is easy to prove these facts to all who do not wander from the path of justice and equity.

The question of the Holy Places—the manifesto goes on to observe—was settled to the satisfaction of al parties. It asks, therefore—

Is it not seeking a pretext for quarrel then, to insist, as Russia has done, upon the question of the privileges of the Greek Church granted by the Ottoman Government—privileges which the Government believes its honour, its dignity, and its sovereign power are concerned in maintaining, and on the subject of which it can neither admit the interference nor the surveillance of any government? Is it not Russia which has occupied with considerable forces the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia, declaring at the same time that these provinces should serve as a guarantee, until she had obtained what she desired? Has not this act been considered justly by the Sublime Porte as a violation of treaties, and consequently as a *casus belli*? Have the other Powers themselves been able to come to any other decision? Who, then, will doubt that Russia has been the aggressor? Could the Sublime Porte, which has always observed all her treaties with a fidelity known to all, by infringing them in any way, do more than determine Russia to a proceeding so violent as that of herself infringing all these treaties? Again, has there arisen, contrary to the promise explicitly given in the treaty of Kainardjé, such facts n the Ottoman empire as the demolition of Christian churches, or obstacles opposed to the exercise of the Christian religion?

After remarking, with "lively satisfaction," that, on the assurances given by the Great Powers that they apprehended hurtful interpretations of the Vienna note, attention is called to the fact, that—

We have still before our eyes a strife of religious privileges raised by Russia, which seeks to base its claims on a paragraph so clear and so precise in the treaty of Kainardji; which wishes to insert in a diplomatic document the paragraph concerning the active solicitude of the Emperor of Russia for the maintenance in the states of the Sublime Porte of *religious immunities and privileges which were granted (octroyes) to the Greek rite by the Ottoman Emperors before Russia so much as existed as an empire*, to leave in a dark and doubtful state the absence of all relation between these privileges and the treaty of Kutschuk Kainardji, to employ in favour of a great community of subjects of the Sublime Porte professing the Greek religion expressions which might make allusions to treaties concluded with France and Austria relative to the French and Latin religions—this would be to incur the risk of placing in the hands of Russia vague and obscure paragraphs, some of which are contrary to the reality of facts, and would offer to Russia a solid pretext for her pretensions to a religious surveillance and protectorate—pretensions which that power would attempt to produce, affirming that they are not derogatory to the sovereignty and independence of the Sublime Porte.

The very language of the *employés* and agents of Russia, who have declared that the intention of the Government was no other than to fulfil the office of an advocate with the Sublime Porte whenever acts contrary to existing privileges might be done, is a patent proof of the justice of the opinion of the Ottoman Government.

The Sublime Porte defends itself from necessitating the haste with which the Vienna note was brought up by its backwardness to propose an arrangement, by stating that it was in the very act of making such a proposition when the invasion of its territories took place; and its sole answer to all active steps was the preparation of the Vienna note. It concludes:—

Since the Cabinet of St. Petersburg has not been content with the assurances and pledges that have been offered; since the benevolent efforts of the high Powers have remained fruitless; since its fine, the Sublime Porte cannot tolerate or suffer any longer the actual state of things, or the prolongation of the occupation of the Moldo-Wallachian Principalities, they being integral portions of its Empire—the Ottoman Cabinet, with the firm and praiseworthy intention of defending the sacred rights of sovereignty and the independence of its Government, will employ just reprisals against a violation of the treaties which it considers as a *casus belli*. It notifies, then, officially, that the Government of his Majesty the Sultan finds itself obliged to declare war, that it has given most precise instructions *(les instructions les plus catégoriques)* to his Excellency Omer Pacha to demand from Prince Gortschakoff the evacuation of the Principalities, and to commence hostilities if, after a delay of fifteen days from the arrival of his despatch at the Russian head quarters an answer in the negative should be returned.

It is distinctly understood that should the reply of Prince Gortschakoff be negative, the Russian agents are to quit the Ottoman States, and that the commercial relations of the respective subjects of the two Governments shall be broken off.

At the same time, the Sublime Porte will not consider it just to lay an embargo upon Russian merchant vessels, as has been the practice. Consequently they will be warned to resort either to the Black Sea or to the Mediterranean Sea, as they shall think fit, within a term that shall hereafter be fixed. Moreover, the Ottoman Government being unwilling to place hindrances in the way of commercial intercourse between the subjects of friendly powers, will, during the war, leave the straits open to their mercantile marine.

The mail-steamer which brings this document, met, in Besika Bay, the two fleets preparing to enter the Dardanelles.

The *Siècle* says that France and England have sent notes to Russia, demanding the evacuation of the Principalities as a preliminary measure, before they will enter upon the mediation which they are willing subsequently to undertake.

It is asserted that the Czar, on receiving the news of the Turkish declaration of war, declared that he retracted all his concessions, and that nothing remained now but war to the knife (*guerre à la outrance*).

The *Pays* says, confirming the report that the war is to begin not on the Danube but in the Caucasus, that one of the principal functionaries of Constantinople has been sent to Abdi Pacha, who commands the Ottoman army encamped at Erzeroum, to inform him of the resolutions of the Porte to act in that country and to give the necessary orders. Three frigates and several steamers of the Turkish navy have been sent to the Black Sea, to second, if necessary, the movements of the army of Roumelia, and a small squadron has also been sent to Trebizonde in support of Abdi Pacha.

Iskender Bey, aide-de-camp of Omar Pacha, has arrived in France charged with a special mission for the Cabinets of Paris and London.

Letters from Vienna speak again, and in a positive manner, of the appointment of Marshal Paskiewitsch to the command of the army in the Principalities. They add that the Marshal has already left for the Danube, and is by this time at the head-quarters of the army. It seems that General Gortschakoff was only chief of the staff. Paskiewitsch is about seventy-six years old, and is known for his campaigns in Poland and in Persia. It is also stated that the Turks intend commencing hostilities in the direction of the Black Sea and in Georgia. The Russians are said to have 80,000 men in those parts.

Letters from Bucharest to the 2nd inst. have been received. The warlike resolve of the Porte was known, and Prince Gortschakoff had called to him the superior officers of his army, and announced that they must now be in readiness to advance southward at any moment.

A letter from Warsaw, of the 8th, states that the authorities were taking all the necessary measures for preventing pamphlets and proclamations of the Revolutionary Committee from being smuggled into the country. They were specially anxious to prevent the entrance of a pamphlet addressed to the nobility, in which they are told, amongst other things, that if they wish to serve their country they must emancipate their serfs.

A letter from Constantinople, of the 3rd, states that, during the previous few days, couriers had followed one another in rapid succession to the army of the Danube. From Shumla it was stated that Omar Pacha had made all necessary preparations for commencing his operations upon the expiration of the appointed delay.

There were no longer parties among the leaders of Turkey—all were animated with the spirit of resistance to the attack on their country's independence. On the evening of the 1st, the Sheik-ul-Islam went to the Aja Sophia with 60 ulemas, and there passed the night; some say they were praying, others that they were taking counsel preparatory to raising the standard of the Prophet, which is kept in the mosque. The admirals of the French and English fleets are here installed at the embassies of their respective nations, whence they send orders to their fleets.

The Minister of War had sent Halil Pacha with a detachment of guards to Batoum, there to take command of a brigade 10,000 strong. It is stated that a force of 30,000 has been advanced to Erzeroum, in order to guard the frontier against Erivan.

The energies of the Russian dredging machine at the Sulina being exhausted, no work had been done there for a fortnight previous to the latest advices. Misfortunes occurred daily, and even lighters have been obliged to throw their cargoes overboard, in order to escape shipwreck.

The Russians are fortifying the bridge which has been thrown over the Danube, near Braila, by means of a *tête de pont*, and two small forts at the end towards Turkey.

In consequence of the impediments to the navigation of the Lower Danube, the mail is for the present to be sent to Semlin, Orsova, Bucharest, Rustchuck, Braila, Galatz, and Constantinople by land.

The Patriarch of Constantinople died on the 28th ult. His funeral took place without any universal excitement among the Mussulman population. The appointment of his successor, of whom the choice rests with the Sultan, will have great importance under existing circumstances.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

The semi-official *Zeit* has an article alleging that Prussia, although neutral, does not remain passive; that, on the contrary, her position is that of a "mediating neutrality"—and that the more Prussia maintains her disinterestedness in the Russian and Turkish strife the more will she exert herself, and the more likely is she to be heard.

The same journal denies the rumour that the Prussian Government will interfere with the natural course of trade in the present season of scarcity, whether by forbidding the exportation of corn, or by purchasihg it abroad.

A promised reduction of the army is the news of the day at Vienna. The *Wiener Zeitung* publishes the fact in its non-official columns as a thing reported, but the announcement is not the less official. The reductions are said to be ordered by a decree of the 9th inst. The infantry companies of five corps and three divisions of a sixth are to be reduced to 60 men, and the light companies to 70 men. Similar reductions are to be made in the regiments now in Dalmatia, and those in the garrisons at Mayence, Rastadt, and Frankfort, and also in the cavalry, the artillery and engineer, and the pioneer corps, to a total extent of about 70,000.

We shall look with great curiosity to see whether these reductions are really to be made, or whether they have been put forward to serve a political purpose, for example, to be quoted some day against France and England as a proof that Austria was contemplating a neutral attitude at the commencement of the war on the Danube. The *Oest. Cor.* seizes the occasion to proclaim anew the neutrality of Austria, a fact which the government seems very anxious to establish now that active intervention by France and England is spoken of.

The *Suabian Mercury* announces that the promulgation of the decree prohibiting the Jews from purchasing landed property in Austria, will be followed by police regulations, one of which will be that they will be only allowed to reside temporarily in large cities unless they shall be regularly domiciled there. The *Cologne Gazette* says:—"The inhabitants of the city express themselves very warmly against the recent ordinance relative to the Jews. It is regarded as forming a singular contrast with the decree of the Sultan, which grants equal protection and the same rights to all his subjects, without regard to their religion. And yet that is in a Mahomedan country, whilst the decree against the Jews is in a Christian one."

In Vienna public attention is diverted from politics by the flight of Baron Sina, the banker, and his subsequent arrest. It appears that the late Prince Ghika had deposited four millions of florins (10,000,000f.) in his hands just before his death, which occurred during his journey homewards; and it seems either that no certificate of the deposit was delivered at all, or that it was lost or stolen during the journey. The heirs of the Prince, who knew of the deposit, summoned Baron Sina judicially to give an account of it, when he declared upon his oath that he had no knowledge at all of the alleged transaction, which declaration put an end to the proceedings. But after the death of Count Stadion, his widow, who has a right to a portion of the Prince's inheritance as his sister-in-law, discovered some documents among her husband's papers, proving sufficiently the fact of the deposit, and consequently the perjury committed by Baron Sina. This was the cause of his attempt at flight.

THE RELEASE OF MISS CUNNINGHAME.

The daily papers of Thursday announced the gratifying fact of Miss Cunninghame's release, but whether on parole or definitively was not stated. The fullest account we have yet seen is contained in the following letter of a *Times* correspondent:—

Turin, Oct. 13.

I hear from Florence that, in consequence of the decided remonstrances of the British Chargé d'Affaires after the receipt of his last instructions from home, the Grand Duke was induced to give an order for the release of Miss Cunninghame on the 9th of this month, after allowing her to remain three weeks in prison on a doubtful charge of contravening an arbitrary edict. The thanks of the English nation are due to the present Secretary for Foreign Affairs for the prompt energy with which he has brought this matter to a termination, but the virtue of a Grand Duke's clemency in yielding at the eleventh hour to the imperative demands of the British representative savours strongly of apprehension. It seems it was by no means certain that the Tuscan Government would have obtained a verdict against Miss Cunninghame, even by the Grand Duke's own law; for, when she was arrested, it is said that the tracts, the distribution of which constituted her offence, had never been examined, and their real bearing against the Roman Catholic religion was taken at a guess! Proofs of innocence, however, do not in general involve a verdict of acquittal under Governments whose chief support is foreign bayonets, and judges might have been found sufficiently accommodating to serve the will of a despot in the face of facts. It therefore becomes the duty of Governments of civilized nations to consider how far their fellow-citizens are to be held amenable to laws enacted by men who stand perjured at the bar of public opinion by the very act of making them. The Grand Duke, who retains his power over the inhabitants of Tuscany by virtue of the strong battalions of Austria, has been able to impose many absurd regulations since his restitution, and to withdraw the bounties

and largesses he had previously bestowed upon them; but the constitution which he swore to contained the stipulation of perfect religious toleration, which was a boon to the whole world, who acknowledged the gift through their several Governments; and, though it may not be the established etiquette of nations to interfere in their neighbours' domestic affairs, on a matter where foreigners as well as natives are concerned, it surely is allowable for every people to say how far they are inclined to be defrauded by the brute force of tyranny. At the present moment the public mind is too much occupied with more exciting subjects to take great heed of what is passing in this part of the world; but it is to be hoped that at some future time, if a day of reckoning should come for the better adjustment of Italian affairs, these iniquitous proceedings will not be lost sight of.

AMERICA.

By the arrival of the Royal mail steamship "Africa," we have advices from New York to the 5th inst. The "Africa" has brought about 600,000 dollars in specie on freight. A violent gale was experienced on Lake Erie on the 4th inst., which did great damage. The latest accounts from Washington state that the position of Minister to China had been offered to the Hon. George M. Dallas, and awaited that gentleman's acceptance. Telegraphic accounts from Richebucto state that the heaviest gale which had been known for upwards of twenty years in that region was experienced on the 29th ult. Ten English and Norwegian vessels went ashore and remained. The yellow fever was very fatal in Galveston and the neighbouring towns. Upwards of 200 persons had died from the disease in Galveston alone. In New Orleans the deaths from yellow fever, on the 3rd inst., were only six; the Board of Health had determined to discontinue their daily reports. The fever was also rapidly abating at Mobile. On the Mississippi the epidemic still continued its ravages. There had been upwards of 300 cases of yellow fever at Grand Gulf, fifty-nine of which proved fatal. At Port Gibson, all but seventeen adults belonging to that place had been attacked by the scourge, and upwards of sixty cases had proved fatal. The epidemic was also spreading on the plantations; seventy-three deaths had occurred at Lake Province, out of a population of 120 inhabitants. The fever was raging fearfully at Vicksburg, Natchez, and Yazoo City, and at every place on the Mississippi river between Princetown and Belize.

At the Court of Queen's Bench, Quebec, on the 22nd September, the grand jury found a true bill against fourteen persons accused of being concerned in the Gavazzi riot at Chalmers's church. The procedure was, however, null, because one of the persons who acted as a grand juror at the time the bills were presented had not been sworn. Other bills of indictment will of course be presented to a grand jury legally composed. The grand jury also made the following presentment:—

That, from certain facts which have come to their knowledge, John Maguire, Esq., justice of the peace, and inspector and superintendent of police for the city of Quebec, did, on the 6th day of June last, whilst a certain riot and attempt to demolish Chalmers's church in this city were being perpetrated, unlawfully omit, neglect, and refuse to do his duty; that he, the said John Maguire, Esq., having a sufficient police force at his disposal then and there present, took no steps to prevent and suppress the aforesaid riot and tumult, although he might have done so, and notwithstanding that he was repeatedly requested to use his authority as police magistrate.

The Court ordered the presentment to be handed over to the Solicitor-General.

The health of Havannah was good. It was reported that a cargo of 580 slaves had been successfully landed at Trinidad. The Captain-General was using every effort to detect the persons concerned in the violation of the law. With regard to the speculation of Don Francisco Marty for importing and enslaving some hundred Yucatan Indians, the Captain-General had caused the strictest inquiries to be made, which had however, been suddenly terminated. Therefore, it would seem, that the proceedings against Marty have been stayed, for the present, at any rate, and that the honest intentions of the Government have "faded" altogether, and melted beneath the effulgence of his doubloons. The kidnapped Indians are yet to remain hired-out slaves, which makes them slaves in reality: and a certain Don Francisco Marty is to go on as he has been going, and to do as he has been doing. The privilege for a submarine telegraph from the island of Cuba to the United States has been granted. The longest cable required will only be about fifty-six miles.

Advices from Mexico to the 18th ult. state that a report had reached that city of the breaking out of hostilities in the Mesilla Valley, between the United States troops and the Mexican forces. Recent surveys have proved that the guano on the islands was almost inexhaustible. More vessels were loading there than ever before. From a Panama journal we learn, that the British and French Ministers in Peru had made application to the Government for permission to send each a duly qualified Commissioner to the Chincha Islands, for the purpose of reporting upon the state of the islands and the quantity of guano, but that the request was refused. Most exciting stories have reached Santiago de Borja of the discovery of gold in the Amazon and its branches. The washings extend for 40 leagues, and 25 pounds per day is said to be the average of one man's labour. Advices from Venezuela of the 19th ult. report that the revolution had been quelled with but little bloodshed, and that the country remained quiet.

Late accounts from Salt Lake state, that the Indians had become very troublesome in Utah, killing many persons. Governor Brigham Young had issued a proclamation calling all the military forces of the territory into service; he had also ordered a wall to be built around the city twenty feet high and eight thick, with a ditch on the outside.

In the New York Stock-market but little business was doing. There was less buoyancy generally throughout the Money-market, owing chiefly to the disturbed state of affairs abroad.

From Rio we learn that the Cabinet had resigned, and was succeeded by another ministry, under the presidency of Viscount Parana. The new Cabinet belong to the same party which has been in power for the last five years. They are Conservative. An English miner, Mr. Johnston, had discovered, in the province of Rio Grande, a mine of good coal.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A shock of an earthquake was experienced on the 24th ult. at Cittaducale, in the Neapolitan territory.

Count Salis, a young man, and several other persons, have been arrested in the Valteline, and taken to Milan.

A letter from Turin of the 13th inst., speaks of the arrest of several political refugees throughout the provinces.

Queen Amelie, the widow of King Louis Philippe, passed through Turin on the 9th, on her way to Genoa and Nice.

The official journal of Stuttgardt contains a Royal decree, re-establishing the penalty of death in the kingdom of Wurtemberg.

The Emperor and Empress continue at Compeigne, whither the Ministers go alternately three at a time, with the exception of the Minister at War, who accompanied the Emperor, and will remain during the whole visit.

The *Echo des Pyrénées* says:—"Such is the abundance of corn at present in Spain, that it is in contemplation to adopt measures calculated to facilitate the exportation of the surplus into France. A decline in prices has taken place in all the Spanish markets."

The *Giornale di Roma* announces that the electric telegraph, which already extends from Rome to Bologna and Modena, is to be continued to Terracina, there to meet the Neapolitan wires; so that Naples, Rome, Bologna, and Modena will form but one uninterrupted line.

The Emperor and Empress have acted by proxy as godfather and godmother to the infant son of the Count and Countess de Lapeyrouse, who was baptized by the name of Napoleon-Eugene Amblard Bonfigli de Rochon de Lapeyrouse. The Count is Prefet of the Doube, and the Countess, who is daughter of the late Gen. Montholon, was born at St. Helena, and had Napoleon I. for godfather.

The intelligence of war having been declared by the Porte has produced great uneasiness at Rome; the Government of his Holiness being equally alarmed at the prospect of success on either side. Should the Austrian forces now in the legations pass the Po, and concentrate their straggling line of garrisons behind the Adige, they will leave the Pope to the sole keeping of the French, and the affection of his own subjects—neither of which can be very satisfactorily relied on.

The Grand Duke of Tuscany has published a decree reconstituting the municipal institutions of the country. Councils-General are to be established in all the communes, on the representative system. The Grand Duke nominates a Gonfaloniere or President; a given number of proprietors, to be called Councillors, are chosen by lot; and a given number of persons called "priors," are elected by the highest taxpayers; these constitute a Council-General. The representation is in proportion to population.

Count Cavour, the Prime Minister of Sardinia, has addressed a report to the King, stating that he will bring in a comprehensive measure on the subject of the corn-trade, when the Sardinian Parliament meets; and recommending, meanwhile, the reduction of the duty on corn to one-fourth, and on other grain to half the present amount. The King has adopted both suggestions, and has issued a decree to that effect.

Abbas Pacha is at the present time in the Desert beyond Mount Sinai, superintending the construction of a road from Mount Sinai to Tor, a small port on the Red Sea, where a mineral spring, said to be of great virtue, has been lately discovered. Great surprise is generally felt that the Viceroy should be absent from his capital, occupying himself with such trifles, when affairs of so much greater importance require his presence at the seat of government.

The first caravan of French pilgrims to Jerusalem arrived safely at their destination on the 12th ult. As soon as they perceived the city they alighted from their horses, prostrated themselves, and prayed fervently. They were all clothed in white, and as they entered the city by the gate of Jaffa, musket shots were fired in their honour. It is said that a French frigate is expected at Jaffa to protect the pilgrims.

Jullien has become an idol in New York. One evening he struck up "Yankee Doodle," as if suddenly inspired, and threw the crowd in Castle-gardens into an added ecstasy by concluding with "Hail Columbia." But his "unwearied spirit in doing courtesies" has been shown in more solid form. He organized a concert on behalf of the suffering survivors of the New Orleans dead, and the proceeds have been handed over to the authorities—Jullien completing the benefaction by giving in a receipted note of the whole expenses, as his own addition to the 1,500 dollars realized.

News from Australia to the 19th of July has been brought *vid* Panama, by the "La Plata." There was a deficiency in the gold supplies, in consequence of the bad state of the roads and the recent heavy rains. There were in Hobson's Bay and the Yarra eight steam-vessels, seventy-three ships, eighty-nine barques, fifty-five brigs, and fifty-eight schooners, all lying at anchor, either delivering or taking in cargo, in the port of Melbourne alone. The whole makes a total of 283 vessels, which, if averaged at 390 tons each, would make a total of no less than 84,900 tons of shipping at one time in that harbour. The first shipment of gold to the United States by Panama had been made in the English ship Glance; it amounted to 40,000 dollars.

The Paris Bourse opened brilliantly on the 16th. The Threes began at 73f. 30c., being a rise of 30c., and this price was maintained with little variation for the first hour. At 25 minutes past one the price of Consols at twelve to-day was posted. The quotation, 92¼ to ½, gave increased firmness to the market. But during the last half-hour a regular panic set in, for which no cause was assigned. The Threes dropped to 72f. 75c., and recovered only to 72f. 80c. for the close, being a fall of 40c. from yesterday, and of 70c. from the highest price of the day. The railways, which had been very firm, fell proportionably in most, though not in all instances. On Monday the decline continued; the Three per Cents. closed at 72f. 55c. for the end of the month; and the Four-and-a-Half per Cents. at 99f. 45c.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 10th contains a bill, which is to be presented to the Cortes, but the prompt execution of which is authorised by Royal decree. It prescribes that the Royal navy shall consist for the present of 90 vessels, composed as follows:—Six men-of-war, of from 80 to 90 guns, of from 400 to 600 horse power; 12 frigates, of from 30 to 50 guns, and of from 300 to 400 horse power; 12 corvettes, of from 20 to 30 guns, and 200 to 300 horse power; 14 brigs and schooners, of from 6 to 20 guns, and of 200 horse power; 6 paddle-wheel steamers, for war and the post-office service of from 400 to 500 horse power; 7 for war and the transatlantic service, of from 300 to 400 horse power; 12 coast-guard vessels, of from 100 to 200 horse power; 12 other vessels for navigation in shallow water, of 100 horse power; and 8 sailing transports.

THE ARCTIC NAVIGATORS.

The recently received despatches contain some very interesting particulars—some of painful interest—in addition to those related, and others but touched upon in our leading article on this subject. Such particulars we will here put together.

Lieutenant Inglefield was sent from home in the "Phœnix," to land stores on Beechy Island, and to give despatches to Sir Edward Belcher. The ice prevented his approach to Beechy Island, and he left the stores on Cape Riley. He then went by land from Cornwallis Island to Cape Rescue, and there found that Captain Pullen, of the "North Star," his companion ship, had already communicated with Sir Edward. His land voyage was very trying, but the ordinary perils of the ships are thus indicated:—

On the 17th of August a heavy gale from the south-east set the ice on to the Cape so suddenly and with such violence, that both ships narrowly escaped being lost. The "Phœnix" was severely nipped, the ice bearing down upon her with such force that the six hawsers and two cables laid out were snapped like pack-thread, and the ship forced against the land ice, lifting her stern five feet, and causing every timber to groan. The hands were turned up to be ready in case the ship should break up though there would have been small chance, in such an event, of saving a man, as the wind blew so violently with snow that it was impossible to face it, and the ice in motion around the ship was boiling up in a manner that would have defied getting a safe footing to the most active of our crew.

In another part of the report he describes the hanking of the ship when blocked up in the ice:—

In the evening a small crack along the north shore to the eastward was observed, and we immediately shipped the anchor, and steamed up, but it closed ere we could reach it; we therefore returned for the night, but in the morning I was glad to find it again opened, and we proceeded under full steam and sail with a light northerly wind, towards the eastward. Nothing but a powerful steamer could have effected her escape at that period, and now with one or two slight detentions for a couple of hours, we made out of the Straits.

There are two remarkable discoveries mentioned in Captain M'Clure's journal, viz., some smoking hillocks and a petrified forest. He also states that during his intercourse with the natives, he only once met with any hostile demonstrations. This occurred at Point Warren, near the Mackenzie, where, on attempting to land, two natives with threatening gestures waved them off; it was not without much difficulty that they were pacified, and then they related that all their tribe but the chief and his sick son, had fled on seeing the ship, alleging as a reason that they feared the ship had come to revenge the death of a white man they had murdered some time ago. They (through the interpreter) related that some white men had come there in a boat, and that they built themselves a house and lived there; at last the natives murdered one, and the others escaped they knew not where, but the murdered man was buried in a spot they pointed out.

Sir Edward Belcher examined Wellington Channel, but found nothing of importance. He says:—

I think I may safely say, that not the most distant hope of any communication by sea exists in this direction with Jones's Sound. Although, from the fogs and vapours which were particularly noticed from the crow's nest on board, and by myself from the deck, exhibiting at times the appearance of smoke from fires, I am inclined to suspect extensive lakes or arms of the sea, &c., running parallel to the northern land, and possibly connecting by some very narrow neck, but westerly much, as it would otherwise materially influence the tides in this region. Throughout this very interesting search, not a particle of drift wood has been noticed since quitting Village Point, and not a trace of human beings. Animal life seems to fail after quitting Exmouth Island. It is possible that the snow may have covered many objects, but we noticed them even when heavier snow had fallen on Table Island. If our unfortunate countrymen have "taken the floe and drifted with it," their case is hopeless. If we may judge from the aspects of the floes, where they had come into collision,

or where they piled themselves in layers over forty feet on the north-western extremities of the islands, the feeling was disheartening. We noticed nothing equal to it in Melville Bay. Our only resource now is the close search of the coast line west and south-westerly and north and easterly for any traces of vessels or crews.

"From our examination of this northern sea, I now feel convinced that the so-termed Smith and Jones's Sounds are connected immediately with this northern sea. If Franklin passed easily through Lancaster Sound to try the opening of Jones's or Smith's outlets, we may yet fall upon his traces, as my own spring movements will carry me in that direction. Commander Pullen or Mr. M'Cormick may have already, in part, settled this important question; they were fully impressed by me with the importance of that course of search."

The gallant young Frenchman, Lieut. Bellot, who volunteered to accompany the expedition, was sent by Commander Pullen, from the "North Star," across land to the "Assistance" with despatches for Sir Edward Belcher. Four men accompanied him. One of them tells the narrative.

"We got the provisions on Wednesday, the 17th. After we had done that there remained on the ice David Hook, A.B., Lieut. Bellot, and myself, having with us the sledge, Macintosh, awning, and little boat. Commenced trying to draw the boat and sledge to the southward, but found the ice driving so fast; left the sledge and took the boat only, but the wind was so strong at the time that it blew the boat over and over. We then took the boat with us under shelter of a piece of ice, and M. Bellot and ourselves commenced cutting an ice house with our knives for shelter. M. Bellot sat for half an hour in conversation with us, talking on the danger of our position. I told him I was not afraid, and that the American expedition were driven up and down this channel by the ice. He replied, 'I know they were; and when the Lord protects us not a hair of our heads shall be touched.' I then asked M. Bellot what time it was? He replied, 'About a quarter past eight a.m.' (Thursday, the 18th), and then lashed up his books, and said he would go and see how the ice was driving. He had only been gone about four minutes when I went round the same hummock under which we were sheltered to look for him, and on returning to our shelter saw his stick on the opposite side of a crack, about five fathoms wide, and the ice all breaking up. I then called out, 'M. Bellot!' but no answer (at this time blowing very heavy). After this I again searched round, but could see nothing of him. I believe that when he got from the shelter the wind blew him into the crack, and his 'south-wester' being tied down, he could not rise."

The man was asked, "Do you think M. Bellot was afraid?" and he answered, "No, sir; he was a good officer." Another man of the party states that Lieutenant Bellot made a remark to him a short time before he was lost, saying nothing made him more happy than to think that he was not on shore, for knowing his duty as an officer he would see the last danger, adding that he would rather die here than be on shore to be saved.

CHOLERA IN THE METROPOLIS.

Dr. Gavin Milroy, from the General Board of Health, had an interview on Monday with the directors of the poor of the parishes of St. Giles and St. George, Bloomsbury, with a view to the preparation of plans for securing the preservation of the public health in those districts.

Mr. Yardley, of the Metropolitan Police-office, reported to the General Board of Health seven cases of cholera in the parishes of St. George's-in-the-East, Shadwell, Bermondsey, Kennington, and Greenwich, and on board the ship "Ivy," in the river Thames.

Dr. Milroy also inquired into and reported upon the sanitary condition of the Queen's Prison, in so far as it may be affected by the foul effluvia arising from the knackers' yards, boneboiling factories, &c., in its immediate vicinity. Attention was drawn to these nuisances a few days since by Captain Hudson, the Governor, in a letter to Viscount Palmerston, referred by his lordship to the General Board of Health. Dr. Milroy, in the above-named report, observes:—

It appears from the statements of all whom I examined that the stench from the factories, &c., complained of, is often so horrible—more especially when the wind comes from their direction—that not only must every window be shut, but the inmates of the prison (the average number of all within the walls, including the officers and their families, being about 200) are frequently so nauseated that they cannot take their meals when brought to them. One of the patients in the infirmary suffering from chronic asthma stated that his breathlessness was always much increased whenever the air was polluted by the emanations from the boneboiling and other offensive trades in the neighbourhood. On such occasions he was forced to leave the rear of the building, which is most exposed to the disgusting nuisance, and go into a room in front, but even then he did not find relief unless he at the same time closed the window.

The nurse of the infirmary, who has been there for the last nine years, stated that the patients are continually complaining of the horrible smells, and that she is often obliged to shut every window in the wards. During the hot weather of summer this is a cause of the greatest inconvenience and discomfort to the inmates. The proper ventilation of the infirmary at the very season when it is most required is thus seriously impeded, nor should it be forgotten that the weather when mephitic effluvia are the most powerful is that when the freest airation is the most necessary to health and for the prevention of disease.

The testimony of Mr. Watson, the surgeon of the prison, leaves no doubt as to the results of the nuisance in the production and aggravation of sickness.

Independently of the horrible stench of which the inmates of the prison complain so much, they are frequently much annoyed by the numbers of large flesh flies which deposit their offensive contents on the windows, window-blinds, and furniture in the rooms.

From a list given to me by Captain Hudson, I find that in one street alone there are no fewer than four bone-boilers, three slaughterers of horses and other animals, two catgut manufacturers, and one bone button manufacturer.

The Board of Guardians of St. George-the-Martyr, in which parish the Queen's Prison, as well as the localities complained of, are situated, have made more than one attempt to suppress the nuisances, but hitherto they have been foiled.

On Monday Mr. Bedford, the coroner for Westminster, held inquests respecting the deaths of Susan Hannah Reed, aged 63, and John Albin, 24, prisoners in Milbank prison, who died of cholera. It appeared that the woman had been received into the prison on the 18th of December of last year, and had been subjected to slight punishment for misconduct. She was attacked with diarrhœa on Friday last, and, although every attention was paid to her, and the medical men did all they could, cholera ensued on Saturday, and she died in about two hours and a half. The jury returned a verdict "that the deceased died from Asiatic cholera." In the case of John Albin it was proved that he had been subjected to minor punishments for very bad conduct, but they were not of such a nature as to injure his health. He was sent to the infirmary on the 3rd inst., in consequence of sickness and a complaint in his bowels; diarrhœa followed, and ultimately cholera. It was proved that the deceased had been properly attended to by medical men, and that during his illness he had experienced all the care which his case required. A similar verdict was returned in reference to him; and the coroner said, it must be satisfactory to the public to know that everything was done in the prison for those who were suffering under the dreadful disease of cholera.

The deaths from cholera and diarrhœa are now reduced, in Newcastle and Gateshead, to two or three *per diem*; and we observe that the local journals complain that the Board of Health officials wantonly disregard the boundaries of the neighbouring towns in making their report.

The total number of deaths from cholera and diarrhœa in Newcastle during the present outbreak has been 1,501. In the same period (namely, the first 46 days) during the prevalence of epidemic cholera in 1831-2, the number of deaths was 289.

At Hamburg only 15 fresh cases have occurred since the 26th of September, and no new case was notified to the authorities on the 6th of October, nor on the three preceding days. The total number of persons attacked is stated to have been 537, of whom 279 died, and 201 recovered, 51 remaining at that date under treatment. In all human probability the community of Hamburg are indebted for their comparative immunity to the improved sanitary condition of their city since the last visitation in 1848.

THE COTTON STRIKE.

The whole of the mills, the owners of which are in alliance with the Manufacturers' Association, being now closed, the disastrous consequences of the lock-out are already beginning to manifest themselves. Some of the Preston operatives are migrating to other towns in search of employment, and many of those who are remaining, and have young families to support, are now under the necessity of purchasing more meal, and less flour, coffee and tea.

The town is placarded with an address "from the steam-engine makers, coach-builders, mechanics, cabinetmakers, joiners, shoemakers, millwrights, black and white smiths, tailors, cloggers, printers, boiler-makers, tinplate-workers, bricklayers, slaters, painters, moulders," &c.:—

The delegates representing the above trades, after passing a vote of entire confidence in the committees who have the management of the affairs of the factory operatives, resolved to issue the following address to the public:—

As the master manufacturers of Preston have at length demonstrated to the inhabitants of Preston and to the world their determination of throwing on the streets thousands of their honest operatives, solely because they have demanded a fairer remuneration for their labour, we hereby declare it to be an act of the grossest injustice. The factory operatives of Preston have been too long crushed under the mighty hand of capital, and their rights as working men uniformly disregarded. And now that the operatives are fighting the battle of labour's right against capital's might, we are resolved, as members of the various trades of Preston, to support the factory workers and assist them, as men loving honour and justice, to obtain their demand—namely, an advance of 10 per cent., and a perfect adherence to their union.

We, therefore, advise our suffering brethren to proceed in their course with cheerfulness and alacrity, and let uprightness, sobriety, and good behaviour characterise their whole proceedings and conduct, until an honourable and just settlement can be come to; and, although the cotton lords of this town may tell you that your delegates are designing men, we would refer them to their own conduct during the corn-law agitation, when they not only sanctioned the employment of paid agitators, but helped to support them What was that but resorting to the very means they now condemn? It cannot, surely, be wrong to follow their example. The working men are progressing with the times. Let the factory operatives fearlessly demand their right, and, with the assistance and sympathy of ourselves and the public generally, we hope, and confidently believe, that they will be victorious.

Signed, on behalf of the various trades in Preston,
JOHN HODGSON, Chairman.

On Monday morning, an aggregate meeting of the unemployed was held on the greensward of the Marsh. Such a gathering was never before witnessed in Preston. It was computed that from 20,000 to 30,000 people were present, the great majority being factory operatives. After a brief introductory speech from the chairman, Mr. Fallowes, the vast assembly was addressed by a number of delegates; the proceedings occupying about two hours. One of the speakers said they were now waging war with a powerful body of men, who were determined to crush the remaining liberties possessed by the operative classes. But if the operatives only remained firm and united, and persisted in claiming fair remuneration for their labour, victory must attend their efforts. He understood that last night many of the manufacturers had their mills guarded by their overlookers and others much more than ever they had before. He, however, could honestly tell them there was no occasion for that step. The operatives did not intend that either the property or the persons of their late masters should be injured. They had learnt more sense than to destroy the property they had created. If any of the manufacturers were disposed to sell their mills, they (the hands) should be able to buy some of them before Christmas [cheers]. The speaker concluded by intimating that the operatives were willing to submit this dispute to the arbitration of any twelve men unconnected with either party.—Three cheers were given for the 10 per cent. and three groans for the "shoddyocracy" (as the hostile manufacturers are designated).

The hands of Messrs. W. Andrew and Co., who returned to their work under the impression that the firm had agreed to give 3s. a week—the advance of wages asked—having found that it was not the intention of Messrs. Andrew to give any advance, again turned out after working three days. A public meeting was held at the Corn Exchange, Hanging-ditch, on Friday night, for the purpose of considering the propriety of establishing a dye-work, to afford an asylum of labour for the men on strike. The meeting was very numerously attended. Mr. John Feer, secretary to the Dyers' Union, addressed the meeting at great length. He took a review of the proceedings which preceded and eventually led to the strike. It was proposed to establish a co-operative dye-work by the creation of 6,000 shares at 10s. each, by which a capital of £3,000 would be raised. Resolutions—amongst others, one, that a fund of £3,000 be raised in shares or loans of 10s. each, to carry out the principle of a working man's dye works, was agreed to.

A number of printworks in Paisley and neighbourhood have been stopped this week, in consequence of the dispute which has arisen between the firm of Messrs. Peter Brown and Son, in Kilmarnock, and their workmen, in reference to the request made by them for fortnightly instead of monthly payments; the masters in this district feeling bound to stop their works in consequence of their being in connexion with what is known as the Master Printers' Union for the Shawl Trade. It is alleged that Messrs. Brown had promised to their hands fortnightly payments, and that they afterwards retracted that promise when the strike took place. A conference of employers and operatives was held on Thursday last, in relation to some other matters belonging to the trade, after which the subject of the hand-bill published by the Kilmarnock operative printers was taken up. The allegations therein, in reference to the employers charging a per centage on money advanced during the month, was discussed, and it being denied that such was the case, the meeting was adjourned for eight days to allow proof in support of the allegation or otherwise. About 1,000 hands in the town and neighbourhood, and about 500 in Barrhead, have been thrown out of employment by the above step of the employers, entailing in the meantime a very serious loss to the community.

As was stated a few weeks since, the policemen of Torquay made an application for an increase in their pay, on the ground that their present wages (16s. per week) were inadequate to meet the rise which has taken place in the price of almost every necessary of life. The local Board of Health, in whom the management is vested, took time to consider the application, and at their last meeting, held a few days ago, they consented to raise the pay of those who had served longest in the force from 16s. to 18s. per week up to Lady-day next. At Holsworthy some carpenters and joiners have struck for higher wages, but it is probable that an arrangement will soon be come to between them and their employers. The strike of the shoemakers at Devonport is now over, and all the men are again at work. At Brixham there was likely to have been a turn-out on a small scale a short time since, but terms were soon come to between the masters and the men, and the ill-effects of such an ill-timed step were thus averted.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

In Birkenhead a drunken husband caused much grief to his wife, a lady of respectability. Lately she has been almost driven mad by his conduct. One morning last week she got out of bed, where she had been lying with her husband and child, got a razor, returned to bed, and plunged the razor in the baby's throat. She then took the bleeding child out of the room, and handed it to a person in the house. The child had two gashes in the throat, and is not yet dead. The event has caused a painful sensation in the town.

The following five cases of woman-beating transpired at the police court last week:—Samuel Dakin struck his wife on the face, knocked her down, and pressed her chest with his foot. She rushed from the house covered with blood, and in a fainting state. (Some months ago her husband broke her arm with a poker.) The husband excused himself by saying he was drunk, but he was sentenced to six months and hard labour.—A most disgusting savage, named Barry, assaulted his brother's wife. He flung himself down and bit her on the thigh, and then bit her finger. "The finger had a sickening look, as if it had been chewed." The bite on the thigh is pronounced dange-

rons. "Six months" was the sentence.—William Howard flung a plate at his wife, and wounded her terribly on the temple. This was without any provocation. He also beat her severely. The surgeon said it was a miracle that the woman had not been killed; and on examining her, he found her one mass of bruises and cuts, from the crown of her head to her chin. "Four months" was awarded.—Daniel Roach beat his wife about the head, and kicked her in the face with his thick heavy boots. When the woman appeared in court, "the right side of her face, from her eye to her chin, presented a most frightful appearance, and her head was one mass of bruises. She had a bandage over her right eye, round her forehead, and she seemed scarcely able to move her head." His penalty was "six months."—John Davis, an old grey-headed man, beat his wife, a decrepid old woman, but the beating was slight, andparsly provoked, he was only fined 20s.

An investigation into alleged mutiny and manslaughter on board the barque the "Queen of the Teign," Teignmouth, has concluded in the master, Capt. Wm. Topley Stocks, and two English seamen, named Northcote and Goldsworthy, being charged with the manslaughter of five Malays. Mr. Dennison, the interpreter, experienced the greatest difficulty in obtaining direct answers from the Asiatic witnesses, and the proceedings were consequently very protracted. One Big Smat, whose theological ideas were extremely vague, but whose oath the Court at last consented to receive, was then sworn upon the Koran. His evidence was extremely confused and contradictory, and added little to the previous depositions. Taleb, Small, Smat, Topex (a Chinaman), and Cassim, were examined with nearly the same results. Abart and Ali, the Malays, charged with mutiny and assaulting and wounding have been arraigned, and remanded.

A terrific explosion of gas occurred on Thursday, at 73, Broad-street, City. M. Donnadieu, the celebrated savant, had a providential escape. He was struck on the head and shoulders, and the flooring carried from beneath his feet.

A dreadful accident has occurred at the Holyhead works. Hugh Hughes was working at the bottom of a shaft driven in the rock, when an enormous stone fell, killing him on the spot. Deceased has left a widow and a large family.

A murder is believed to have been committed at Worcester. James Green, the deceased, was about 38, and was a small farmer at Kempsey, a village four miles from Worcester. He went to Worcester to buy a horse, and had £9 in his pocket, but when the dead body was discovered next day, the money was gone. He had been drinking at a public-house in a disreputable part of the city, and had also been seen to speak to a woman who kept a house of ill-fame. The body was found at the edge of the Severn, but it was evident that death had not been caused by drowning.

Another of the decadent houses in St. Clements Danes has given way. On Wednesday night, the roof of a house, 2, Pettiford-court—a narrow, unwholesome court, not more than six feet broad—immediately behind St. Mary's Church, fell in with a tremendous crash, nearly killing three children and two adults, the tenants of the upper part of the premises. Fortunately, however, they were rescued from their perilous position. From the deep excavations which have been carried on in the neighbourhood for some time past, and from the old and tottering state of many of the buildings, the danger to the inhabitants is very imminent.

On Wednesday night, the shed covering one of the platforms at the Great Western Railway station in Reading was effectually levelled with the ground, but, very fortunately, without the loss of a single life. The goods-train from Basingstoke, due about ten, made its appearance at the usual time. The policeman gave the signal for it to come in on the line of rails running close to the outside pillars of the shed. The side flap of one of the trucks was hanging down so far as to come in contact with the pillars, and struck with force against each successive pillar, forcing them out of the perpendicular. As it struck the last the principals across the upper part of the shed gave way, and the whole fell in from the centre, burying a number of empty carriages. The conductor, driver, and stoker on the goods-train all escaped uninjured. Had the accident occurred a few minutes later, the sacrifice of human life must have been very great, for the down mail was due at 10.12, and at the time of the roof falling was within view. As it was, the mail train was stopped by the signal-man. The damage is estimated at nearly £2,000.

As the "Nymph" steam-boat, bound for London, Captain Cruse, was lying alongside the pier at Sheerness, on Wednesday afternoon last, one of the stokers lifted up the lid of the paddle-wheel, for the purpose of allowing the steam to blow off; a child on board screaming at the time took off the master's attention, and forgetting the lid was open, he stepped backwards and fell into the wheel, just as he had given orders to move the vessel a-head. The call-boy, with great presence of mind, seeing that the captain had disappeared, called out "Stop her, master is in the wheel." The engine was stopped instantly, and the captain was picked up by Mr. Smith, a waterman, and had happily escaped with only a ducking. Great anxiety was felt by the passengers on board, as also the spectators on the pier, who had witnessed the occurrence. The captain was taken on board the vessel, and in a short time came on deck, said he was all right, and proceeded with the vessel on her voyage to London.

The details were on Saturday received at Lloyd's of a most dreadful tragedy which took place on board the bark "Countess of Wilton," of Liverpool, while on her homeward voyage from Shanghai. On the 17th of May, when the ship was near the Indian coast, the late captain, Mr. James Crangle, ordered all hands on deck. The chief mate, William M'Fillen, did not seem inclined to perform his duty, and the master sent two men to look for him. He was found in the storeroom under the cabin, and the captain despatched the second mate to bring him up for disobeying orders. M'Fillen was met approaching the cabin, and the unfortunate master ordered the seamen away, in order that he might have some conversation with him privately. A cutlass was lying on the table in the cabin at the time. Angry words and loud altercations were heard passing between them. Shortly afterwards the second mate, hearing a noise and some heavy groans, looked through the skylight, but could not observe anything. However, entertaining a suspicion that something serious had happened, he called the crew, and, arming himself with a log of wood, went down to the cabin, where to his horror he saw the lifeless body of the captain stretched upon the floor, and M'Fillen thrusting at him with the cutlass. The carpenter, by a dexterous movement, drove the murderer aside. He made an effort to escape by running up the rigging; the second mate, however, pursued him, and managed to hold him till he was secured and chained down in his cabin. About a week afterwards, while being conducted to the watercloset, duly guarded, heby some means managed to elude their attention for a moment, and, making a sudden spring, bounded overboard. A rope was thrown towards him, and the boat lowered, with a view of saving him. He made not the least effort to seize them, and in a few minutes disappeared and perished. The catastrophe is greatly attributed to the free use of ardent spirits on board. The deceased master is said to have been often in liquor, and while in that condition treated M'Fillen in a most severe manner. The second mate took command of the ship, and brought her safe home. She was frieghted with a valuable cargo.

DISASTERS AT SEA.

We mentioned in our last the occurrence of several unhappy maritime casualties. We have this week to add to the list the following account of two destressing cases of shipwreck:—

The "Annie Jane" sailed from Liverpool for Quebec and Montreal on the 9th of last month, with some 450 emigrants, most of them Irish families. It is presumed that she had made some progress across the Atlantic, when she encountered the fearful south-westerly gales, which disabled her, and rendered her unmanageable, and in that hopeless condition was driven back, and dashed on to the terrible coast of Barra, one of the Hebrides. With a point called Vatersay, where the wreck occurred, the island is six miles in length, and two and a-half broad, and lies some five miles south-west of the next island, Uist. The inhabitants are mostly employed in the cod-fishing trade. There is a lighthouse on the heads, which is the highest in the United Kingdom, being 680 feet above the level of the sea. Such is the terrible character of the coast, however, that there is little chance of a vessel being rescued when once it is entangled amongst the reefs. Several of the survivors contrived to get a passage from the island over to Tobermory, a small seaport on the Isle of Mull, and from them the authorities learned that 348 passengers were drowned; 102, with Mr. Bell, the chief officer, and 12 of the crew, were saved.

The ship struck on the reef during the night, when most of the passengers were asleep. Many rushed on deck in a state of nakedness; wives clung to their husbands, and children clung to both, some mute from terror, and others uttering appalling screams, and eagerly shrieking, "Is their hope?" The scene is described by the survivors as the most agonising which it could enter into the heart of man to conceive. The poor creatures had not long to wait for the catastrophe. After the first shock was over the passengers rushed to the boats, three of which were placed between the mizenmast and the poop, and the fourth lay on the top of the cooking-house forward. The life-boat had already been lost. But, as happens too commonly in such melancholy cases, the boats were of no earthly use, for they were all fixed down and secured, or lay bottom up. While the passengers were thus clustered round the boats, and within a very few minutes after the ship had grounded, she was struck by a sea of frightful potency, which instantly carried away the dense mass of human beings into the watery waste, and boats and bulwarks went along with them. The wild wail of the sufferers was heard for a moment, and then all was still. But the great majority of the women and children, as well as some of the male passengers, remained below, either paralyzed by terror, or afraid that they would be washed away in the event of their coming upon deck. Their time also had come. The frightful thumping of the great ship, taken in connexion with her cargo of railway iron, must have immediately beaten the bottom out of her; and while her fabric was in this weakened and disrupted state, another dreadful sea broke on her, and literally crushed that part of the deck situated between the mainmast and the mizenmast, down upon the berths below, which were occupied by terror-stricken women and sleeping children. They were beaten to death rather than drowned, as was fully evidenced by the naked, mutilated, and gashed bodies which were afterwards cast on shore. The main and the mizenmasts went at the same moment. The most of the remaining seamen and passengers now took refuge on the poop, which was a very high one, and each succeeding assault of the sea carried away its victim or victims. In short, within one hour after the "Annie Jane" struck, the remaining stumps of her masts went by the board, and she broke into three pieces. The remains of the mizenmast were still attached by the shrouds to the wreck of the poop, and by the help of the islanders it was placed so as to form a sort of bridge or ladder between the poop and the shallow water; and, as the tide had now fully ebbed, all the survivors got on shore without much difficulty by seven in the morning. Almost all the cabin passengers perished. Only one child was saved. It belonged to a humble Irishwoman, who, with her two children, was about to join her husband in America. She struggled hard to preserve them both, by binding one on her back, and grasping the other in her arms; but when the ship parted the one in her arms was dashed into the sea. Soon after reaching the shore the survivors repaired to a farm-steading, or cluster of houses, which was not far from the beach, and repaired their exhausted energies by rest.

Another wreck happened nearer home on Tuesday morning. The "Santipore," a ship of 650 tons, left London for Hobart Town. The late severe gales drove her back into the Downs, and on Monday evening, after another attempt to get down Channel, she struck upon a reef near Folkestone, and lost her rudder. Boatmen boarded her, and though the ship was fast filling, though the masts were bending like whipcord, and the danger very great, the captain would not give up the ship, but still worked on. Steam-tugs came to pull him off. The first succeeded, but the rope broke. A second then attempted, but it was too late. The ship, drifting rapidly inwards, scraped the ground, and directly afterwards stranded upon her broadside on the spot above indicated, heeling over to the seaboard with a tremendous list, threatening the momentary destruction of the vessel. Captain Jewell instantly gave orders to cut away the masts, each of which fell in rapid succession, and the ship, thus cleared of her top weight, lay comparatively quiet on the beach, within 150 yards of the Pavilion Hotel. The cargo has been mostly saved.

The steamer "Islay" arrived at Glasgow on Sunday morning with forty passengers, saved from the wreck of the "Annie Jane." They left Barra in a small sailing smack on the morning of Wednesday last, and, arriving at Tobermory in the course of the same night, were thence forwarded to Glasgow. The majority of the passengers are partly well attired, having obtained clothing from the wreck of the boxes which were cast ashore; but many are totally penniless, and eighteen of the number had to receive food and shelter during the night in the Police-office. Captain Mason, with the remainder of the passengers, including most of the women, still remains on Barra.

Lastly, we have an account of the foundering at sea, in lat. 38 N., long. 56 W., on the 13th of September, of the bark "Henry Horbeck," Captain True, from Cardiff for New York, laden with railroad iron. Ten men, including the captain, and a woman and child, were saved. On the 8th of September, at twelve p.m., it came on to blow hard from the southward, when the ship was hove to under a close-reefed maintopsail. At 1.30 it blew a hurricane, during which the foretopgallantmast and mizentopmast, and all the sails, with the exception of foresail and spanker, were lost. At two o'clock a terrific sea struck the ship on the port bow and swept the decks of both boats, together with the deck-house, at the same time tearing open and carrying away the waterways, and washing two men overboard, besides breaking the legs of two others, and seriously bruising the arm of another. On Sunday, the 11th, at two a.m., the gale came on again from the N.W., with a heavy sea, and the ship laboured heavily in the trough of it. In wearing the ship, the wind coming westward, a heavy sea struck her under the counter, and must have started some of the butt-ends of the planks, for it was instantly perceived that she leaked fearfully. All hands were kept at the pumps until Thursday morning, the 13th, when, being worn out with labour and want of rest and food, a raft was made of some spars and planks, and the remainder of the officers and crew, with the woman and infant abovementioned, were launched forth on it with only a five-gallon keg of water and part of a ham to sustain life. On this fragile and miserable refuge, on a quarter of an ounce of raw ham and one gill of water, the party continued to float until the 17th (the ill-fated craft having sunk three hours after leaving her), when a steamer was observed coming towards them, and they hoisted the remains of an ensign on a boat's mast, but for a time were unobserved, and were beginning to despair, when they saw, to their inexpressible joy, the steamer shorten sail, lower a boat, and come towards them. The steamer proved to be the "Velasco," Spanish mail packet, from Havannah, with much yellow fever on board, going to ride her quarantine at Vigo, where, on their arrival, all were put into the lazaretto—a horrible hole for anyone—and one of the sailors had his broken leg amputated below the knee, and the others had medical care. They were four days on the raft, and the woman and child suffered dreadfully, as well as the injured men. Those of the "Henry Horbeck's" crew who were Americans (six in number) the American consul sent to Cadiz in the "Velasco," and the remaining portion came home in the "Iberia," by the consul's orders. The whole of them—the woman and infant particularly—suffer much from their injuries and privations, and are truly objects of commiseration and relief for the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Society, as they have only the tattered clothes they escaped in to shelter them from the approaching cold weather, and have no means of returning to their native homes, Bristol and Cardiff.

An amusing occurrence lately took place not a hundred miles from Portsmouth. An eccentric admiral, not over particular in his costume, called at the residence of a gallant colonel in his neighbourhood. The door was opened by a servant, who, to the visitor's inquiry for his master, replied, "My good man, you ought to have gone round to the back door."—*United Service Gazette.*

Court, Personal, and Political News.

The Queen and her family left Balmoral on Thursday, passed the night at Edinburgh, and arrived safely at Windsor at eight o'clock on Saturday evening.

The last Cabinet Council was held on Wednesday, and sat five hours.

The death of Mr. Charles Baring Wall creates a vacancy in the representation of Salisbury. Mr. Wall had long been ill, and he died on Friday morning, at Norman Court, Hampshire, in his fifty-seventh year. Mr. Wall represented Guildford three times, and Wareham and Weymouth once. A Tory formerly, he was since 1846 a Liberal Free-trader. General Buckley, of New Hall, Wilts, has issued an address to the electors.

At a monthly meeting of the board of the London and North Western Railway Company, held at the Euston station, on Saturday, the Marquess of Chandos was unanimously elected a director of the Company, and subsequently the chairman of the Board of Directors as heretofore, an unpaid office.

Commander R. J. Le Mesurier M'Clure, in command of the "Investigator," Arctic discovery ship, has been promoted to the rank of captain, for services performed in search of Sir John Franklin, and for the discovery of the certainty of a north-west passage. Commander Inglefield is also promoted to the rank of captain.

Colonel Outram has been re-appointed as Resident at Baroda.—*Times*

The well-known residence of Mr. George Hudson, M.P., at Albert-gate, Knightsbridge, has been let for five years to Count Walewski, the French Ambassador, at a rental of £1,500 per annum.—*Observer*.

It is reported in diplomatic circles at Paris, that a violent scene has taken place in London between Lord Clarendon and Baron Brunnow, the Russian Minister. Lord Clarendon is said to have directly charged the Russian diplomatist with bad faith, and with having deceived the English Cabinet as to the intentions of Russia with respect to the Principalities. He declared that it was on the faith of the word of Baron Brunnow that the English and French fleets did not pass to the Dardanelles when the Russians occupied the Danubian provinces; but that the two Cabinets were now on their guard, and knew the value of Russian promises. M. de Brunnow was not prepared for such an attack, and felt greatly at a loss how to answer. The scene is said to have affected the Baron de Brunnow so seriously that he has been ill ever since—indeed, political illness frequently attacks Russian diplomatists in moments of difficulty. M. de Kisseleff has had nearly a repetition of the same scene with M. Drouyn de Lhuys.—Paris Correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*.

An important circular has been issued by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, of which the following is the principal part:—

The increasing revenue and accumulating amount of money in the Treasury renders it most probable that the tariff will be made a prominent subject of discussion and examination, with a view to reduction, during the approaching session of Congress. In the meantime, and at as early a day as may be, I am desirous to obtain from the most reliable sources the best information of the working of the present rates of duty upon the leading branches of industry of the country, and as the effect to be expected from the proposed modifications. Understanding that you take an interest in this subject, and have given some attention to it, and, perhaps, have been in situations to place within your reach very valuable information, you will much oblige me by communicating to this department your views thereon, and by furnishing lists of articles now subject to duty, which, according to such views, should be duty free, and of such other articles on which the present duty should be reduced. The existing tariff having been designed generally and substantially for revenue, and for a fair and equal operation both between the various sections of the country and the various branches of industry, the same objects should, undoubtedly, be kept in view; and the reductions, if any shall be made, should be so arranged as to afford an equal participation in the benefit to every interest and to every section. Articles which enter into our manufactures, and those which do not come into competition with American products, are those about which there will, doubtless, be the least question.

The Lisburn election has resulted in the return of Mr. J. J. Richardson, Liberal, the rival candidate retiring.

There have been two semi-political banquets during the past week. At one of them—the dinner of the Agricultural Association—Mr. Evelyn presided, and Mr. Drummond did the speech-making. He avoided politics entirely, and contented himself with rating the Surrey farmers for their slowness in adopting improvements, and for "merely scratching the face of the land with a small tooth-comb, according to the custom that had prevailed in the country since the days of the Normans," instead of ploughing to a greater depth. The practical application of his remark was, that the prizes for ploughing should be given for time and depth, especially the latter. He told the farmers they must go to Caird, and Mechi, and Huxtable, if they would learn something; advice which was received with laughter, and cries of "No!" But to this Mr. Drummond retorted—"It is of no use saying 'No!'—and laughter will not snub those men, or do away with the fact."—A forlorn remnant of Protectionists, constituents of Sir J. Tyrrell and "W. B.," met at Castle Hedingham, on Thursday. Both these gentlemen sent excuses; and the oratory of the day was left to the Rev. W. Cox, who boisterously proclaimed his preference for universal over five-pound suffrage!

The Leicester Gaol Inquiry has been resumed, in consequence of the visiting justices having petitioned the Home Secretary for leave to submit additional evidence to the Commissioners, on the ground, as stated by Sir H. Halford, one of their members, that the magistrates had been held up to public obloquy, and exposed to great and unjust attacks from the press. At the inquiry, Sir H. Halford said he was desirous it should go forth, that the proceedings had the full sanction of the magistrates; and they severally deposed that, if punishments such as had been described were inflicted, they knew nothing about the matter. Lord Howe, Sir Henry Halford, and a number of other magistrates, could only say that they had seen nothing wrong. Lord Berners, however, admitted that the visiting magistrates had thought the number of punishments "very large;" but then, his lordship added, "The surgeon described the punishments as so light that the prisoners sometimes laughed at them." The surgeon to the gaol was examined, and appears to have forgotten some statements he made on his former examination, but he added, that whatever he said then must have been true. The Warder Godfrey was subjected to a long and harassing examination to throw doubts on the correctness of the record book he kept, but it was admitted by Mr. Reeve, the Deputy Clerk of the Peace, who conducted the case of the magistrates, that he was "astonished at the accuracy with which his books were kept." At the same time he stated that it was his object from occasional errors to show that one or two particular cases of inhumanity were not true. When called upon to specify these cases Mr. Reeve replied that he could not say. "Was there ever," the *Daily News* remarks, "such insolent trifling with an important judicial inquiry? At the urgent request of the Leicestershire Justices, an investigation, conducted in their presence, and closed after they have been invited but declined to say anything that occurred to them in their own defence, is re-opened after a lapse of some weeks; and the whole amount of their deliberately got-up vindication is this — that one or two particular cases of inhumanity laid to their charge were not true. Then all the other cases are tacitly admitted by themselves to be true, and their mouthpiece, when called upon to specify the untrue—the exceptional—cases, cannot do it."

Miscellaneous News.

The serious charge of fatal negligence is laid at the door of a Manchester relieving-officer. At an inquest on the body of Mary Collins, aged 32, Michael Collins, deceased's husband, stated that he went, about eight o'clock on Thursday morning, to Mr. Clarke, one of the relieving officers at the Manchester workhouse, and told him that his wife was confined, and in a very dangerous state, but he had no money to pay for a doctor. Mr. Clarke said he could do nothing for him until he had attended to the other people, and told witness repeatedly to go down stairs and wait. Witness said he did not expect his wife to live from one moment to another, and Clarke replied, "Oh, they don't die so sudden as that." After waiting about twenty minutes, witness returned home and found that his wife was dead. He then went back to Mr. Clarke and said, "That person is dead, and I blame you for it." Clarke asked what he wanted with him, but witness was quite certain the man understood him before. Witness had had two midwives in attendance upon deceased, who said it was a very bad case, and that it was necessary he should get a doctor.—The jury found the following verdict:—"Died in child-bed, for want of proper medical assistance. The jury censure the relieving officer, Joseph Clarke, for his neglect of duty and want of humanity; and request the coroner to forward a copy of the depositions to the Poor-law Board in London."

An order to build a new steam-yacht to supersede the "Victoria and Albert" has been issued. She will be of iron, and a paddle-vessel, with engines of 600 horse-power, and 300 feet in length, 37 feet beam, and about 1,700 tons burden. She is to be able to attain to the speed of seventeen knots per hour.

A committee appointed by the Court of Common Council recommend that Temple-bar be restored and repaired, not removed; but the Court have agreed to send back the committee's report for further consideration, and that any having for its object to obtain further roadway and footway on that portion of Fleet-street, be considered. This resolution, which was carried by a majority of thirty-five to twenty-three, is to be understood as being unfavourable to the retention of the structure.

The first experiment of the new act, passed for the abolition of transportation to penal settlements abroad, commenced on Friday and Saturday last, four convicts having been liberated and Friday, and four on Saturday, from the "Warrior" convict ship stationed off Woolwich dockyard. These convicts have each served between three and four years of the period expressed in their sentence, and return to their friends, or to any employment they may obtain, unfettered with any restriction save that of avoiding the haunts of thieves, or associating with bad characters, on pain of being again taken up and sent to the hulks without any further trial, where they will then be kept until the full period of their original sentence expires. Others will be liberated on the same terms during the week, and in subsequent weeks, until room is made in the "Warrior" for a number of convicts recently sentenced, and they in their turn will be liberated after three or four years' hard labour in the dockyard. In the event of the ticket of leave convicts conducting themselves well, and showing an industrious disposition, the liberty they have obtained will be equal in every respect to a free pardon, as they may now engage in any enterprise for their own benefit, and have every advantage which a free pardon could have given them as citizens of any town, or residents in any part of the country. The experiment is certainly worth a fair trial, but if the leniency which is now shown to those who have offended against the laws of their country is abused, the Government will soon have an opportunity of returning to transportation beyond the sea to some far less eligible place than Australia, Capt. Denham being at present in the South Seas searching for a locality, which may never be required if the new system works well.

One of the Dublin magistrates has bound over to keep the peace a distributor of Protestant controversial hand-bills for "insulting and annoying conduct, in having thrust into Mr. O'Brennan's (a Roman Catholic) hand a printed document or tract containing matter outrageous to his feelings as a Catholic, and also in having then sneered and laughed at Mr. O'Brennan, such insult having been offered in the public street, and calculated to cause a breach of the peace."

ENGLISH SLAVEHOLDERS.—Among advertisements in the *Times* recently was one relating to the sale of the "Coffee Plantation of Goossen, situate in the colony of Surinam, *with its negroes*, cattle, and other appurtenances." A gentleman, who dates from Fludyer-street, Whitehall, writes concerning this extraordinary advertisement:—"That there are Englishmen who would purchase such property in man I doubt not. One right hon. baronet owns some black men in Surinam now, and it was but lately that a bank in Glasgow held a mortgage on such property. Let me tell your readers how such property is regarded in the colony of Surinam. No, I cannot; but I can give one instance—it may be a rare one, but I believe it not to be a rare one in Surinam; the damnable coolness with which the owner gave it to me, and his social position in Surinam, leave me to believe such murder is not uncommon. Dining at my house for the first (and of course for the last) time, a Dutchman expatiated on the drunken character of slaves in attendance on the rum-stills in Surinam. Many and awful were the punishments described as having been inflicted on them for exceeding. His success was greater than that of other owners. He, finding his property drunk, ordered its mouth—but I cannot proceed treating man, made in the image of God, as property—I should say, ordered the slave's mouth to be held open, and the attendants compelled the poor creature to drink until he died. My visitor was allowed to say no more. I got up from the table, saying he was a murderer, whom English law could not reach, and with whom I could hold no further conversation. A purchaser of the 'Coffee plantation, Goossen,' may have an equal power over the 'negroes, cattle, and other appurtenances,' but for all such there is a judgment to come. I mention the latter because, though not stated in the advertisement, it must be thought of."

Several of the Dissenting ministers of Barnstaple agreed last week to hold "special religious services for humiliation, prayer, and exhortation, in reference to the recently manifested corruptions in the borough." Meetings for prayer were accordingly held, and addresses were delivered on "moral purity." It was proved before the Commissioners that several of the professors of religion had accepted bribes of £6 each; and it is said that these meetings were intended as a rebuke to those venal professors.

With the preface, "How houses are burned down," a correspondent writes:—"Messrs. Futvoye's splendid premises in Regent-street narrowly escaped destruction from fire on Saturday last. Mr. Edmunds, a gentleman in their establishment, perceiving an unusual glare on the basement floor, descended to ascertain the cause, when he perceived a large body of flame pouring forth from the leaden pipe, which had been melted by the intense heat of the gas burner underneath, threatening speedy destruction to their valuable stock and buildings. At great personal risk, and with much presence of mind, Mr. Edmunds succeeded in subduing the devouring element, not, however, before the ceiling immediately under the shop had been partially burned through. We understand the firm is insured in the Imperial and Royal Exchange offices for upwards of £20,000 (much, however, under the value of their extensive stock), who would have been considerable losers but for this timely discovery. Doubtless many fires, whose origin is enveloped in mystery, is traceable to, or has arisen from, a similar cause."

Cambridge (says the *Cambridge Chronicle*) at this moment is full of vagrants of all sizes and of all ages. Irish, Scotch, French, Swiss, German, and English to boot, are to be met with, levying contributions on the charitable public. The police have a great deal of difficulty in contending with them, and every artifice is resorted to by the mendicant to evade the law. Among the most "gentlemanly" of these beggars is a Mr. Ross, from Paddy's land, who evidently is a hypocrite, and makes the following petition:—

The Petition of Donald Ross, Servant of God, unto the Nobles in London.

Your petitioner humbly showeth, asketh, and telleth, the reward which shall be given at the last great day of judgment.

That I went forth to France last past winter to preach and to teach the things which Christ the Son of God commanded his disciples to preach and to teach to all nations, having his word for my rule. I could not go through the course of learning in college perfectly, because I am poor. In France I was cast into prison on the last past 8th day of March, and brought out of prison on the last past 5th day of July, and leave given me by the French Government to come to England; leave was rejected me to go forth from France to Spain, according to the command of Christ, because I am poor. Your petitioner humbly asketh your compassion on me, who am poor, and seeketh anything your compassion moveth you, nobles, to give me, which shall ever be remembered by me, and Christ, the King, shall remember it, when he shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him;

when he shall sit on the throne of his glory, the King shall say, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. The reward shall be given, then is life eternal.—St. Matthew, xxv. chapter.

Your humble petitioner shall ever pray.

I am, Nobles in London, your humble servant,

DONALD ROSS, Servant of God.

London, 4th August, 1853.

An extraordinary case of imposture is reported in yesterday's papers. On Wednesday last a woman named Mary Sullivan, a native of Dumfries, presented herself before a magistrate, at Doncaster, and made a voluntary statement to the effect that she had wilfully poisoned her child by giving it laudanum, and that, in consequence of having committed such a deed, she had come to give herself into custody. She was detained, accordingly, to enable the superintendent of police at Doncaster to communicate with the authorities at Dumfries, whence the following communication was received on Sunday, and laid before the borough magistrates on Monday:—

County Police office, Dumfries, October 15. Sir,—I am favoured with your letter of the 13th, relative to Mary Sullivan, and have consulted the public prosecutor on the subject, and he is of opinion that no proceedings are warranted, or can be taken, in her case. I may mention for your satisfaction that her case was inquired into at the time it occurred in this town, and the remark made then upon the precognition taken was—"There seems to be no room for the slightest suspicion of unfair play." On the 9th of November last the woman came to the authorities and made a statement similar to the one she made to you; and it was then thought that she was not sane, and since that time, and from inquiries which we have made to-day, nothing has transpired that could lead us to alter our opinion in the case. With many thanks, &c., for your kindness, I remain, yours truly, JOHN JOHNS. Mr. Etches, chief constable, Doncaster.

The medical men in the town are of opinion that the woman is sane, and no reason can be given why she should persist in her statement, unless it be for the purpose of obtaining shelter in gaols and union workhouses. She was brought before the magistrates on Monday, and she again repeated her former testimony about destroying her child. Her daughter was present, but not examined upon oath, and she stated that she had fetched laudanum for her mother's baby, and that it had died very suddenly in Dumfries. She said they left Dumfries about six weeks ago, and travelled to London to meet some of her husband's friends, who reside there. The magistrates expressed their opinion that the woman was making use of this story solely for the purpose of deception and imposture, and they hoped that the press would notice the case, in order to prevent her from putting the authorities of other towns to expense and trouble in inquiring into her wilful misrepresentations.

STAMP DUTIES ON ASSURANCES.

The *Assurance Magazine* of the present month observes, that although the new stamp duties are not quite such as the Select Committee of 1852 on Friendly Societies recommended, nevertheless the reduction is so considerable as to make them for the future fall very lightly upon all who will have to pay them; and that it is more than probable that most of the assurance societies will not think it worth their while to make any demand from the assured on account of them, particularly as they will be more than recompensed by the reduction effected in the ordinary receipt stamp. The boon thus conferred by the Legislature upon those who desire to make provision for old age, &c., will tend to increase considerably the number of insurances on life. It is, however, to be regretted that the stamp duty on fire insurance should still continue so high, for, as it is observed in this publication, "a duty of 3s. per cent., at a time when competition has reduced the premium for the best class of risk to 1s. 6d. per cent., appears obviously, at the first glance, to be what it really is, a violation of all the sound principles lately acted upon in our fiscal policy." It is quite sufficient to take a glance at the gross amount of the duty paid, and observe the little progress that it makes, to be quite satisfied that the excessive duty is doing a fatal work. Take, for example, the last five years. The returns distinguish the sums paid by the London companies from those paid by the provincial:—

	1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.
London offices	£739,021	740,794	755,055	792,093	800,740
Country offices	345,435	339,494	344,106	347,549	353,863
	£1,084,456	1,080,288	1,099,161	1,139,592	1,155,603

Were the impost reduced, there can be no doubt of the loss to revenue being soon made up by the increase of business that would follow such a measure.

Postscript.

Wednesday, October 19th.

LATEST FROM THE CONTINENT.

The following is a translation of the letter from Omar Pacha to Prince Gortschakoff:—

Monsieur le General,—It is by the order of my Government that I have the honour to address this letter to your Excellency.

Whilst the Sublime Porte has exhausted all means of conciliation to maintain at once peace and its own independence, the Court of Russia has not ceased to raise difficulties in the way of any such settlement, and has ended with the violation of treaties—invading the two Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia, integral parts of the Ottoman Empire.

True to its pacific system, the Porte, instead of exercising its right to make reprisals, confined itself even then to protesting, and did not deviate from the way that might lead to an arrangement.

Russia, on the contrary, far from evincing corresponding sentiments, has ended by rejecting the proposals recommended by the august mediating Courts—proposals which were alike necessary to the honour and to the security of the Porte.

There only remains for the latter the indispensable necessity of war. But as the invasion of the Principalities and the violation of treaties which have attended it, are the veritable causes of war, the Sublime Porte, as a last expression of its pacific sentiments, proposes to your Excellency, by my intervention, the evacuation of the two provinces, and grants for your decision a term of fifteen days, to date from the receipt of this letter. If within this interval a negative answer shall reach me from your Excellency, the commencement of hostilities will be the natural consequence.

While I have the honour to make this intimation to your Excellency, I embrace the opportunity to offer the assurances of my high esteem.

To this note, the Russian General Gortschakoff has intimated that he "has no orders to commence hostilities, nor to conclude peace, nor to evacuate the Principalities."

Omer Pacha has declared that he will leave the Danube free to neutral vessels until the 26th of this month.

In Bessarabia, Bulgaria, and the Principalities, the rivers are all so low that they may be crossed, even the Pruth, on foot.

All the German officers who have been imparting military instructions to the Turks are recalled. The military cordon on the northern frontier will not be augmented. On the 29th ult. the Wallachian militia were recalled from the Danube and concentrated at Bucharest.

Prices on the Paris Bourse yesterday exhibited no improvement: the Three per Cents. a trifle lower. Final quotations: Three per Cent. Rentes, 72.50; Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 99.50; Bank Shares, 2,800.

The *Daily News* Paris correspondent writes:—

There is a rumour that another plot has been discovered, and that, in connexion with it, 140 arrests were made last night. Experience teaches one to be sceptical about plots, but it is certainly true that extensive political arrests have just been made, although I believe the number to be exaggerated. I have not been able to learn any particulars, except that M. Goodchaux, the eminent Minister of Finance under the Provisional Government, was in custody for about two hours, and was released after being interrogated.

In the same journal is a letter from Constantinople, of the 5th inst., which says:—

The representatives of France, Prussia, and Austria, it is understood, are making every effort to temporize and delay the execution of its measures, whereas Lord Redcliffe, if I am rightly informed, abstains from any interference calculated to control the independent action of the Porte.

The Nizam forces amount at present to nearly 300,000 men, and are receiving daily further reinforcements. There is, besides, an irregular force, or Bachi Bozuk, computed at about 120,000 men, in the different camps The attack, it is supposed, will commence on the Asiatic frontier, where it is hoped the Circassians, Kurds, and other warlike tribes, will combine with the Turkish forces, and annoy severely their common enemy. Omar Pacha is to remain on the defensive along the line of the Danube, but the war once commenced it will be difficult to restrain the ardour of his troops, besides which the Russian general, on learning the decision of the Porte, will scarcely wait the expiration of the stipulated term to advance his forces.

Admiral Slade arrived per "Eregli" steamer at Varna, on the 20th ult., and after having inspected the works, and conferred with the civil and military authorities, rejoined the cruisers in the Black Sea.

It is said that a command in the Turkish army has been offered to Abd-el-Kader, but that previous to accepting it the Emir had asked the opinion of the French Government on the subject.

From Copenhagen, we learn that a new conflict between the Government and the Chamber of Deputies seems imminent. Upon the proposal to take the new fundamental law of the kingdom of Denmark Proper into consideration, the majority of the speakers energetically exclaimed against the abolition of the existing constitution before the Government had submitted to the Folksthing the draft of the constitution for the whole monarchy. On the 11th, several speakers appealed to the earlier promise of the minister Blume, who, however, remained silent; and the ministry generally showed itself very reserved. After a short discussion, under the presidency of M. Tcherning, the Assembly decided, in its sitting of the 14th inst., to pass over the Government bill, and to take as the basis of its deliberations the Danish fundamental law of 1849, suppressing those articles which belong to the constitution common to the entire monarchy.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The General Board of Health has just issued a manifesto, headed "The Metropolis," of an ominous, though not unnecessarily alarming aspect. It commences:—

Forewarning of the necessity of measures of prevention is the best means of obviating panic.

On referring to the former visitations of cholera, as far as regards the metropolis, it appears that in 1832 the attacks were 16,144, and the deaths 6,729; the population of London then being 1,881,841. In 1848-49 the attacks were about 30,000, and the deaths 14,601; the population at that time being 2,206,076. So that in the epidemic of 1832 one person died in every 250 of the inhabitants, or .4 per cent.; whereas in 1848-9 one person died in every 151 of the inhabitants, or .66 per cent. The mortality, therefore, in 1852-3 was about two-fifths less than in 1849—that is, about 5,800 more persons perished of this epidemic in London in 1849 than in 1832.

A table is given to show a considerable parallelism between the early progress of cholera in the metropolis in 1848 and now in 1853. That progress is, however, in almost every week more rapid now than it was in 1848; and, comparing the total number of deaths during the whole of the eleven weeks with the number of deaths in the corresponding weeks of 1848, the recent deaths have exceeded the former by nearly one-third.

It is further shown that the progress of the epidemic has been much more rapid during the whole of the present months than during the corresponding period in 1848.

It is remarkable, that gradual and slow as the progress of the disease has been in the metropolis in both visitations, there have been in both sudden and violent outbreaks in particular districts and localities. In 1848 it had scarcely appeared in the metropolis when in the very beginning of October it attacked Edinburgh with great violence, and spread in the course of a few days to the neighbouring towns of Newhaven, Portobello, Loanhead, and numerous other places in the vicinity. In the beginning of November it attacked Glasgow, and subsequently a large number of manufacturing towns and villages in Lanarkshire, Ayrshire, Dumfriesshire, and other counties in the south and west of Scotland. Now it has attacked with the like suddenness and with increased violence the northern English towns.

The returns from the Metropolitan Commissioners of Police give eighteen cases of cholera and eight deaths.

In the Millbank Penitentiary, where cholera was so peculiarly fatal in 1848-9 as compared with the mortality from the same cause in other metropolitan prisons, there have been since the 24th August last nine cases of cholera and three deaths, two of which occurred on the 14th inst.

The weekly report of the Registrar-General says:—The number of deaths registered in the metropolitan districts in the week that ended on Saturday was 1,039. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1843-52, the average number was 949, which if raised in proportion to increase of population will give 1,044. A comparison of the actual and estimated results shows that London last week suffered not more than its ordinary rate of mortality.

Cholera, which has made its presence felt in various parts of the metropolis, and during the four weeks that followed 10th September, showed a small but continuous increase, does not appear latterly to have gained ground. The deaths from this disease were 66 in the first week of October; last week they declined to 45. It is a somewhat remarkable coincidence that 45 was the number registered in the corresponding week (viz. the 42nd) of 1848; for many weeks thereafter the deaths rose and fell, dropping so low as one and two in the spring of 1849, till the epidemic broke out with violence in summer. The fluctuations which mark its previous history may attend its course again; but experience affords sufficient warning that a temporary abatement should not lull into security those whose business it is to prepare for the attack. The 45 deaths of last week (21 of which occurred to males, 24 to females) were thus distributed over London:—in the west districts, 6; in the north, 8; in the central, 2; in the east 6; and on the south side of the Thames, 28.

Last week the birth of 812 boys and 761 girls—in all 1,573 children—were registered in London. The average number in eight corresponding weeks of 1845-52 was 1,561.

A densely crowded meeting of the inhabitants of Finsbury on the Eastern question was held last night at the Music-hall, Store-street. Mr. Duncombe, M.P., presided. Mr. Shaen, Dr. Epps, and Mr. Urquahart, were the principal speakers. Mr. B. O'Brien created a long interruption by insisting on speaking. The resolutions carried were the same as those of the London Tavern meeting.

The coroner's inquiry into the Irish railway accident has at length terminated. The jury after three hours' deliberation, agreed to a verdict of "manslaughter" against the engine-driver and stoker of the goods train. The jury attached a rider to the finding, however, which gave it the character of a special verdict. They declare—

That the rules and regulations of the company reflect the highest credit on the judgment of the authors; and they are well calculated to secure the lives and property of the passengers, and that no culpability can attach to the company on account of the late collision.

NEW MODE OF ILLUMINATION.—The new mode of illumination by M. Alexis Codillot is on the following principle:—Innumerable small mirrors, arranged in a particular manner in a multitude of frames, bound together. This framing, in light wood-work, with its mirrors, is placed perpendicularly, and made to rotate. In front of its central point is placed a bright burner, the reflection of which illuminates every mirror, multiplying the lights as it rotates. The reflectors' power is said to be so great that a person may read by it at a distance of about two-thirds of a mile.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The advertisement duty having been repealed, we shall in future charge according to the space occupied; viz., 6d. per line up to six lines, and 8d. per line beyond six lines. That is to say,—

	s.	d.
1 line Advertisement	0	6
2 ditto	1	0
3 ditto	1	6
4 ditto	2	0
5 ditto	2	6
6 ditto	3	0

The NONCONFORMIST *is a family journal, and as such, affords an excellent medium for advertisements of Assurance Companies, Schools, Philanthropic and Religious Societies, Books, Situations and Tradesmen's announcements, &c. Tradesmen, especially, have now an unequalled and cheap mode of communicating with the public, and publishers at a charge of* 1s. 6d. *or* 2s. *(scarcely more than the late duty), may secure that prominent announcement of every separate publication, which is so much valued.*

For the convenience of country friends, we may state, that on the average, eight words are contained in a line, AND THAT ADVERTISEMENTS MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE.

The Terms of Subscription are *(payment in advance)* 26s. per annum, 13s. for the half-year, and 6s. 6d. per quarter.

All communications RELATING TO ADVERTISEMENTS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE PAPER, should be addressed to Mr. William Freeman, Publisher, 69, Fleet-street, London, to whom POST-OFFICE ORDERS must be made payable at the General Post-office.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of 7s. from Dr. Epps, for Messrs. Martin and Swale; and 20s. from S. Gurney, Esq., for "the Burmbridge overseer."

The insertion of several letters is unavoidably delayed till next week.

Several paragraphs of religious intelligence are omitted this week, as is often the case, simply on account of their late arrival. There can be no reason why information communicable by the penny post should be delayed till it is too stale for public interest, and too late for editorial arrangements.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1853.

SUMMARY.

IF the progressive improvement in human circumstances and agencies brought with it an extension of human faculties—if the electric telegraph, for instance, could make visible and audible to our senses, the events it makes present to our minds—we might now be looking on, or listening to, the first outburst of long-threatened conflict in South-Eastern Europe. The declaration of the Sultan has been conveyed to his Commander-in-Chief—Omar Pasha has communicated to Prince Gortschakoff the tenour of his instructions—the Russian soldier has replied, with a laconic simplicity that represents, according to some, the true idea of the military profession, that he has no orders either to withdraw or to advance—and the fifteen days of conditional suspense have expired. Of course, therefore, the Turkish host has, by this time, crossed, or is attempting to cross, the waters that have hitherto interposed to prevent the effusion of blood.

"Of course," that is, according to the plain and ancient rules of war. But these laws, happily, have lost somewhat of their stringency. The fiercest of the surviving sons of barbarism, is tamed in manner, if not in heart. Time was, when the blow, if it did not precede the word, followed it faithfully as the crack of the rifle the flash of its fire. But now, unnumbered considerations intervene—considerations of pecuniary as well as physical difficulty, and diplomatic no less than stratagetic. It is suspected that Omar Pasha has private instructions not to attempt a passage into the Principalities—that Russia is to be attacked, if attacked at all, in another quarter—and that the Porte's foreign military advisers will not permit him to prove the weakness of undisciplined ferocity. It is certain that the situation of the confronting armies is an impossible one for winter operations above the rank of skirmishes. We may, therefore, comfort ourselves with the belief that little actual mischief will be done in the field until the diplomatists have had another and a prolonged opportunity of practising their resources.

The question of Peace or War, then, is still one for discussion. We have yet a chance of preventing the destruction of that which, however difficult to preserve, is infinitely more so to repair. It is still open to us to ask *why* we are going to fight, before we set about debating *how*. It cannot be complained that the opportunity is neglected. Public attention, through all its many channels, is tinged with the dread question. The Conferences which at once extend and curtail our this week's space, are only the most conspicuous embodiment of the interest excited. The press is occupied with it almost to the exclusion of every other topic. Our daily contemporaries treat us to a couple of leading articles per diem on one or other of its phases. Books of Eastern travel are eagerly read. Facts and opinions concerning the countries and races over which the thunder-cloud immediately hangs, are caught up from whosoever will retail them. A controversy rages as to the comparative merits of the Ottoman and Muscovite Governments, and the relative capacities of Greeks and Sclaves for independent national existence. If the agitation of thought be indeed the birththroes of truth, we must be on the eve of an important accession to our knowledge of men and things.

Descending from this general description to a specification of events, we have to record, as simultaneous, and, in some respects, resemblant, Mr. Gladstone's entertainment at Manchester, and the sittings of the Peace Conference at Edinburgh. Apart from his direct utterances, graphic as fervid, on the question of the day, the ceremony at which Mr. Gladstone "assisted," and the honours of which he was the object, were of an eminently pacific character. The inauguration of a statue to the great Free-trade statesman, reminds the world, that in abolishing restrictions on commerce, we aimed, also, to tighten the bonds of amity. The homage done to a financier who has considerably alleviated the burdens of industry, and reduced, by re-distributing, the pressure of indispensable taxation, points out the means by which nations at once multiply the guarantees of peace and may augment the munitions of war. The whole proceeding was a proclamation to on-looking nations that we have found the path of unmistakeable prosperity, and will not be diverted therefrom by aught less than the imperative obligations of duty. Especially worthy of remembrance and reflection is the sentence in which the statesman who is no less a scholar and a philanthropist, hit off the higher than material results of commercial improvement—the bestowal of leisure for spiritual culture and domestic enjoyment. In this fact is found the rebuke of Mr. Drummond's eminently silly talk of wealth-creating as Mammon-worship.

We are glad to find the question of electoral reform struggling into prominence even under the pressure of foreign events of the first magnitude. The *Spectator* rightly argues that the strain upon our institutions, which a severe international contest is sure to produce, will best be met by their timely rectification. The *Daily News* devotes itself with praiseworthy persistence to exhibiting the anomalies of our representation, and exposing suggested alterations that would not be amendments. The *Herald* joins in the discussion, but clamours for the transference to counties of the seats forfeited by the towns. But, perhaps, the most significant symptom of change in party relations yet observed, is contained in the speech of the Rev. Mr. Cox—a redoubtable Tory orator—at Castle Hedingham. Give us—he exclaims—universal suffrage rather than a household suffrage that will exclude our peasantry;—and this avowal of personal preference seems to have been adopted as the expression of collective opinion, by loud applause and a bumper toast. The Tory trumpeter would, in thus speaking, have given forth no uncertain sound, even if he had omitted the allusion to a French empire based on universal suffrage. We know what is aimed at by the elegant essayists and political novel-writers who have put this idea into his head,—but that knowledge supplies no reason for not falling in with his humour. Sinister motives—as was said at Edinburgh—have before this promoted general benefit.

We fear the hugest obstacle to any very wide extension of the suffrage, will be found, next session, in the temper now exhibiting by some of our Northern operatives. The Preston strike is persevered in to the severe distress of the operative and shopkeeping classes. Delegates go from town to town inflaming the passions of multitudinous assemblages, as well as buttressing resolutions formed in ignorance and haste. In all this, the opponents of democratic doctrines will, of course, find reasons for their antagonism; while the heartiest friends of social amelioration see with regret their theories damaged in defence, and the fulfilment of their anticipations indefinitely retarded.

Cholera, nearly extinct in the North-of-England towns, makes little or no progress in the metropolis. The forty-five cases registered during the week ending Saturday last—a deduction of twenty on the number of the previous week—are distributed with a remarkable precision over the districts in which the epidemic has, in former years, been most fatal. It is shocking to think that two at least of our gaols bear this terrible notoriety. We have got rid of the prison fever that in the old times of universal neglect invariably added the perils of death to the punishment of incarceration—and we are all indignant at the detection of cruel practices in two or three provincial jails. Let us not, in the name of justice no less than of humanity, expose to destruction by poisonous vapours or suffocating confinement, the unfortunate or criminal whom we deprive of the power of flight or self-defence.

The Queen has returned from Balmoral to her winter palace. The Emperor and Empress of France—blessed with kinder skies—are yet in the height of rural enjoyment. We were about to congratulate the Sovereigns of the two nations that they, at least—almost they alone—are free from the necessity of hurrying hither and thither at the rumour of war or the summons of a powerful neighbour; but we remember that our new ally is not yet secure from the worser exigencies of domestic treason—the arrest of some hundred and forty citizens, including an ex-Minister of State, being the latest items of Parisian news.—The Grand Duke of Tuscany *has* liberated Miss Cunninghame—had done so, indeed, at the moment we were writing last week that he had not.—The Queen of Spain celebrates her birthday, and asks her "faithful Commons" to permit an increase of naval expenditure already incurred.—Lastly, while Italy is quivering with the thought of a European contingent to her army of liberation, and Hungary preparing to obey the tocsin that calls her to freedom through conflict,—Austria reduces, or feigns to reduce, her military complement.

THE EDINBURGH PEACE CONGRESS.

FROM no single position taken up by the Peace Congress at Edinburgh are we disposed to shrink. However humble and unimportant may have been the part we have taken in support of it, we are not ashamed to identify ourselves with its general object, nor with the mode in which it seeks the realization of it. There were, unquestionably, opinions expressed on Wednesday and Thursday last which we could not endorse, and sentiments uttered in which we do not share. But we are anxious to place on record, at this moment, when the rush of public feeling seems to be all against us, our unwavering confidence in the unspeakable worth of the thing which these Congresses are organized to promote, and in the means they propose with a view to its promotion.

The Peace Congress has been treated by the journals as a meeting of men gathered together from all parts of the empire on the principles of the Peace Society. This latter holds war to be unjustifiable under any circumstances, even when carried on in self-defence—the former merely aims at such a permanent organization of Peace, as would, if adopted, render the chances of war so remote and indefinite as to extinguish it by inanition. The last says, "You *ought* not to fight, happen what may"—the first—"if you are wise, you *need* not fight, happen what will." The one makes its appeal to religion—the other to prudence and forethought. With the Peace Society, war is a sin which no stress of exigency can excuse—with the Peace Congress, it is a calamity which it is worth every effort to avert. It is plain, that in the prevention of war, both parties may act together without compromise or inconsistency. The dominant *motives* of each may differ—but their *means* as well as their *end* may be the same. Pains have been taken to point out

the distinction—but, hitherto, almost in vain—journalism persists in confounding the two bodies as if they were identical, and in arguing against the larger body as holding and professing the principles of the smaller one. It is convenient, but who will dare to vindicate it as even-handed and just?

It seems to be thought that the time has been ill-chosen for descanting upon the blessings of peace. If the present be, indeed, an unfortunate moment for such a discussion, the responsibility rests not with those who convened the Congress. They were but carrying out a general plan of proceedings, adopted for the enlightenment of the nations, without special reference to peculiar circumstances. Had they omitted to call their friends together *this year*, *as usual*, a parable would have been taken up against them for pusillanimity, and they would have been charged with pursuing a course of agitation, which the first practical difficulty suffices to obstruct. But is it true, that the time misfits the object? In our sober judgment, the reverse of this is the truth. Reason ought not to abdicate her functions, whenever passion happens to be in the ascendant. She may be overborne—her cries may be stifled—her counsels drowned in clamour—her arguments despised—but she owes it to herself to be at her post, and to discharge her mission. She may have little hope of terminating or even controlling an immediate fit of intemperance—but her best claim to be heard hereafter will be founded upon the fact that she has nobly dared to speak now. The advocates of an organized peace do not expect by words to arrest the approach of war. They look for no miraculous interference in their favour—but if war be, indeed, a terrible calamity, and if that is about to be proved by coming events, no time can be better than the present for urging the immediate adoption of all measures calculated to prevent its recurrence. When Europe shall have become exhausted by actual hostilities, or wearied out by alarms which are nearly as bad, Europe will listen with less prejudice to those practical recommendations the contempt of which has led to all these calamities.

The main ground taken against the Peace Congress at Edinburgh is the seeming sanction it lends to the aggressive movements of Russia. Now, speaking for ourselves, we are not inclined, either by word or deed, to countenance such movements. The Government of Great Britain, we think, has not opposed the encroaching and domineering temper of the Northern Autocrat as it ought to have done. We should have been glad if it had protested against Russian intervention in Hungary in 1848, and suspended diplomatic correspondence as a proof of the sincerity of that protest. Instead of pandering, as it did, to the Emperor's pride, and complimenting him when he had his iron heel upon the neck of an independent people, we should have rejoiced to have seen it taking a firmer and more dignified attitude, and, while abstaining from a resort to arms, pronouncing its abhorrence of the violence and injustice of Russian absolutism. Even at the beginning of the present year, a solemn manifestation of judgment by Great Britain and France in condemnation of the gratuitous violation of international law by the occupation of the Principalities, might have stayed the Emperor in his mad career of ambition. All this might have been done openly, and above board, without involving us in the necessity of actual warfare. Our present position, we verily believe, is due to the want of explicitness in our secret diplomacy. Our practice has been to dissemble our feelings until the moment judged most fitting for showing our teeth.

But to assume that because it would be an act of injustice, and a menace to the Western Powers, for Russia to coerce Turkey into a position of humiliation, it would also be an act of policy to resist her by force of arms, is what we have never seen proved by anything which has yet appeared. We know what will be the certain evils in which war will involve us, of which the pecuniary burdens, and the commercial losses, are the very least. We can calculate upon the check to social and political progress which it will necessarily entail, and may form some idea of the demoralization, disease, and death, which will assuredly follow in its steps. But we know nothing on the other side to countervail these evils. We cannot say that Russia, even if mad enough to rush upon Turkey, will not, in so doing, fire a train destructive to the pretensions of absolutism all over the continent. We cannot decide whether or not our interference will place Russia in a worse position, than if we left Turkey to fight out her own battles. We are not by any means certain that we may not, before the war is over, be left alone, as we have been before—or that, the struggle commenced over the Eastern question may not soon become a struggle for our own constitutional existence. The war party conveniently take for granted that the objects of the contending Powers will remain the same—and that our siding with Turkey will defeat the aim of Russia on Constantinople. But are we sure that Austria, Prussia, and even France, will not detect in the coming contest, during some moment of its progress, an opportunity for crippling, if not destroying, the political freedom which they hate, and for insisting upon it that Great Britain shall henceforth cease to shelter those whom the Absolutist Powers pursue with political vengeance? For our own part, we see no use in arguing the possibilities either on the one side or the other—but we do say that whilst in the nominal object of this war we have no interest, we are quite sure that the British people chiefly will have to bear its brunt—socially, commercially, politically, and morally. No other Power has an equal stake at issue.

After all, however, we have still a preponderant belief that matters will not come to extremities. The Danube rolls between the belligerent forces. Winter approaches. Money will be wanted. Passion will subside. Fresh negotiations will be opened—and all parties, perhaps, will be delighted to find or make a way of escape from their thickening difficulties. It will not be discreditable to the Peace party, should such be the case, to have stood courageously by their object in its moment of peril—and if, unhappily, the shock of arms should come, they will enjoy the consolation of having done their duty.

THE NEW CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF ARTIC ADVENTURE.

THE announcement that despatches have been received from Commander M'Clure, of the "Investigator," brought by one of his lieutenants, returning home in the "Herald," marks an era in the history of maritime discovery—the attainment of the goal towards which, for three hundred years, curious eyes have been turned, and brave hearts have struggled. To those who have attentively followed the progress of arctic enterprise, the barest intelligence of the fact mentioned, conveys all this,—to others it announces only the arrival of latest news from the extreme corner of the earth—but the dullest, all but the most ignorant, would be stirred by the plain announcement, "Discovery of the North West Passage."

It was in the spring of 1850, that the ship "Investigator" left these shores, in company with the "Enterprise," on an endeavour to penetrate the arctic circle from the eastern point. Most previous adventurers into that region of the unknown and the terrible, had made their way through the miscalled Baffin's Bay, or through Hudson's Straits; and had returned, with the melancholy exception of Franklin, by the common avenue of Davis's Straits. Returning by that route, they were, though safe, unsuccessful—for it was the primary object of their enterprise to find a sea channel across the arctic zone, or to disprove the existence of any such outlet. Commander M'Clure resolved to approach the problem from the opposite side, and to vanquish the difficult up to the very foot of the impossible. On the eve of starting, he declared, "I will find Franklin *or* the north-west passage." In that resolve he persevered, even to the disobeying of orders—and he has touched, if he has not grasped, success. The "Enterprise" was driven back by a swell of icy surge. Captain Kellett, of the "Herald," commanding on that station, signalled to M'Clure to return. But on, through the Eastern gate of Nature's dreadest fastness—alone, by an almost untracked way, like an Orpheus descending into the realms of Plutus—the brave ship went; daring hardship as an inevitable lot, and destruction as an ever-imminent peril. It was on the 30th of July, 1850, the "Enterprise" parted from the "Herald"—turned her back, as it were, upon the outer world, and committed herself to a returnless path. It was but two days before the open, solitary sea was exchanged for a solitude even more drear. On the 2nd of August, the ship touched the ice-field. On the 5th, she rounded Point Barrow—the north-west extremity of the North American continent. From that day to the end of the month, she was engaged in forcing her way between a frozen shore and a frozen sea—till she reached Cape Bathurst. Thence she struck out into the icy ocean alone, with the view of finding an outlet into Barrow's straits—in fact, of discovering *a* or *the* north-west passage. On the 7th of September, Commander M'Clure sighted land on the north, stretching away to the east. This he called Baring Island. Two days later he discovered another coast line, south of the former—and this he set down on the chart as Prince Albert's Land; christening the channel between the two after the Prince of Wales.

In this Strait—four miles from land—the "Investigator" became a fixture on the 6th of October, 1850. There she lay, fast icelocked, till the 14th of July following. During these nine months, the officers and crew were not idle—nor bent simply upon such sport as arctic solitudes afford, or their own wit could devise. Before the end of the first month, they had traced the channel in which their ship lay, up to Barrow's Straits. They had thus advanced one hundred and twenty miles upon the ice further than a previous explorer in the same direction. And more,—they had entitled themselves to write this glorious entry in their log-book—"Discovered the entrance into Barrow's Strait in lat. 73.30 N., long. 114.14 W., *which establishes the existence of a north-west passage.*"

Had the ice refrained but a few days longer from closing up, the vessel that had entered Behring's Straits in July would have emerged into Baffin's Bay in October. Meanwhile, expeditions were made which have added considerably to our knowledge of arctic geography.

On the 14th of July, 1851, the ice relaxed its hold upon the ship, and she was pushed on, with incessant effort, towards the discovered outlet. But in one month,—so brief the summer in these hyperborean parts!—winter had again closed its jealous fist upon the unfortunate navigators. In one day they drifted no less than fifteen miles under a north-east wind, and the "ice pack" which drive before it. Only by tremendous exertions could they come within a mile of Baring's Island. Up this coast, they persevered in pushing their way, until the 24th of September, when they made the following entry:—

"At daylight, observing Barrow's Straits full of ice, and large masses setting into this bay, determined upon making this our winter quarters, and finding a well-sheltered spot upon the south side of the shoal upon which we last night grounded, ran in and anchored in four fathoms, lat. 74.6. N., long. 117.54. W. *This night were frozen in, and have not since moved.* The position is most excellent, being well protected from the heavy ice by the protection of the reef, which throws it clear of the ship 600 yards."

Fortunately, on the hills surrounding this "Bay of Mercy," the imprisoned mariners found an abundance of reindeer and hares—affording them at once diversion and food: of the latter, no less than 4,000 lbs. In April, 1852, a party set out from the ship—traversed the ice to Melville's Island—and deposited there a document describing the whereabouts of the "Investigator." By a remarkable coincidence, this deposit was discovered by the officers of that very ship, the "Herald," from which the "Investigator" had parted on the other side of the Polar sphere. And when found, Commander M'Clure and his men were just about deserting their immoveable home, and attempting a journey on foot to one of the points of rendezvous. But Captain Kellett despatched Lieutenant Pim to complete the circuit. We must really fall back upon the last resource of a writer overpowered by his theme, and say, "it would be easier to imagine than describe" the meeting of the friends separated by twenty-four months and many hundred leagues of ice and sea. Happily, one of the party has attempted the record:—

"M'Cure and his first lieutenant were walking on the floe. Seeing a person coming very fast towards them they supposed he was chased by a bear, or had seen a bear. Walked towards him; on getting onwards a hundred yards, they could see from his proportions that he was not one of them. Pim began to screech and throw up his hands (his face as black as my hat); this brought the captain and lieutenant to a stand, as they could not hear sufficiently to make out his language.

"At length Pim reached the party, quite beside himself, and stammered out, on M'Clure asking him, 'Who are you, and where are you come from?'—'Lieutenant

Pim, "Herald." Captain Kellett.' This was more inexplicable to M'Clure, as I was the last person he shook hands with in Behring's Straits. He at length found that this solitary stranger was a true Englishman—an angel of light. He says:—'He soon was seen from the ship; they had only one hatchway open, and the crew were fairly jambed there, in their endeavour to get up. The sick jumped out of their hammocks, and the crew forgot their despondency; in fact, all was changed on board the Investigator.'"

The ship and crew are yet in bonds. Human daring and perseverance have at last wrested from the spirit of the North his grim secret; but he as yet retains as proofs of his unvanquished power, the proud adventurers. And in his "unfathomable caves" he holds, also, alas! in durance lasting as Time, one of the bravest and noblest of the band. Lieutenant Bellot, a young Frenchman, attached to Commander Pullen's expedition, has yielded up his gallant and gentle spirit in the faithful though modest performance of a voluntary duty. And Franklin, with his companions, it is now too certain, has disappeared for ever from human sight or help. The news of our crowning triumph over long insuperable obstacles, comes stained and saddened with the assurance that a costly sacrifice of life has been made—an amount of suffering from which imagination recoils has been endured—for the attainment of that barren victory.

Yet not barren! True, any lingering dream of commercial gain accruing through a channel whose passage is only possible through a kindly caprice of Nature—a momentary smile, uncertain as brief—is dissipated for ever. True, we now know that the Northern summit of the globe is fenced off by barriers of granite from the streams that run down with golden sands, or that make pleasant music as they roll. But is not this knowledge of priceless worth, rounding off as it does our geographical science, and advancing the boundaries of thought and fancy into a region of strange men and stranger natural phenomena? Is it nothing, or little, that we have a hundred volumes of exciting record in our memory—a hundred pictures of the grand or the fantastically beautiful on our mental retina—that would have been wanting but for Arctic adventurers? And let us not forget that as the price paid was a voluntary payment—as the men who dared the hardships and horrors of Polar expeditions, were not pressed into the service, but eagerly ventured on it—that price is itself a great gain. More precious than any scientific fact—more beautiful than any picture—is the thought of a Franklin perishing without a sigh, a M'Clure forbidding useless aid, a Billot disappearing with a calm, heavenward look through a fissure in a frozen sea; for such thoughts reveal in our common nature the double capacity of heroism and sainthood—and revealing, stir to emulation.

CORRECTION AND CAUTION.

We regret to find that our article of last week, entitled, "A New Use for the Penny," is disfigured by a typographical blunder, and rendered an unsafe guide by a questionable version of the Act we aimed to explain. It is some consolation that we are not alone in our inability to give infallible interpretation to an important legislative provision; but we permit no false pride to suppress the remarks of a friend much engaged in commerce, and who has taken some pains to ascertain the true state of the case, without, as will be seen, arriving, as yet, at complete satisfaction:—

"I don't exactly understand what is meant by 'ticking off a tradesman's book,' but would suggest that the only safe course for the public will be to take a receipt independent of any pass-book, such as retail traders commonly supply to their customers, otherwise the receipt will often be in the hands of the wrong party, and, in case the book is lost, the customer will have no evidence of payment.

"Cheques upon *bankers* payable to BEARER may still be drawn without stamp, but the act now makes it legal to draw them to *order*, by the use of a penny stamp; thus, if A. B. draws on Coutts and Co. £50 to the *order* of C. D., the latter must endorse the cheque before it will be paid, and such endorsement will be a legal receipt for the money, so that, in fact, the *cheque* becomes a bill of exchange payable on demand. If, however, this latter plan is adopted, the *drawer* of the cheque must attach the stamp, and as *few merchants* would like to draw a cheque *one penny* short of the sum to be paid, he will probably find the stamp, and not the receiver.

"The writer of the article states that 'letters acknowledging the receipt of *money* or other securities, are exempt;' but this, I think, is a mistake as regards *money*, and only applies to Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, or other securities *already stamped*—for when an acknowledgment for *money* is intended as a *discharge of an account*, it is, to all intents and purposes, a *receipt*, and, I apprehend, must bear a stamp.

"It is also stated that stamped cheques, invoices, &c., will be provided and sold by the distrubutors; but it will be found that the public must provide their own *printed* forms, and either affix a stamp or send them to Somerset House to be stamped—the Government only providing *dies* stamps or 'heads.'

"The writer remarks, 'that of course Post-office orders will be liable to stamp.' But this would involve a *double* tax, first to the Post-office, and then by a *stamped receipt*, which must be given to the person who pays the money. But, in fact, the question is settled by practice, for the Post-office does not require the orders to be stamped."

OUR PROPOSED CHANGE OF NAME.

AFFIRMATIVE.

I have carefully read every line that has appeared *pro* and *con*. Many very strong things have been written on the negative side, and some things have been urged on the affirmative, that have appeared to me alike irrelevant. Your correspondents, generally, seem to have overlooked, altogether, the drift of your own article on the subject. Hence there have been expressed many foolish apprehensions; and some doubtful friends have not been slow to throw out unworthy insinuations. I am quite sure that the confidence reposed in you by the vast majority of your readers, is of too old a growth, and is too firmly rooted, to be shaken by any change you may propose which is merely of an outward and formal character; and, when all has been said that can be said, this is really all that your proposed change of name amounts to. You have pledged your honour to that—your whole past life sufficiently guarantees it. Looking at the question, then, as one of policy and expediency—in which no principle whatever is or can be involved—I have deliberately and thoughtfully come to the following conclusions; viz.—

1st. The *Nonconformist* was established to advocate certain great principles;—to support it in the advocacy of those principles, it was necessary, *in the first instance*, that it should find its readers among those who professed to hold them; and, in seeking *them*, it was necessary that it should carry on its fore-front a name that should at once indicate its principles and its mission. No better name than that it has always borne could have been found for attaining the object then in view.

2nd. The *Nonconformist* has succeeded in gathering round its standard more than sufficient of the zeal and strength of Nonconformity to demonstrate that *we can* support an organ advocating *its* principles, with *its* independence. The *name* of the paper is *now* no longer essential—it has brought us together—it has united us—but now we wish to carry our principles into the enemy's camp—if that be possible. The *name*, however, betrays us. Our battle is to be won by *argument*, and we want to argue with *opponents*—but we go, in the *Nonconformist*, under a party name, that at once discovers our object—makes our approach offensive, and *prevents our getting a hearing*. Every reader's experience must have proved the truth of this. Where, then, is the wisdom in retaining the *name*? I can see none, notwithstanding all the arguments to the contrary. Of course, if all your readers are going to fly off because, though still possessing everything else—*you*, with the principles and their talented and independent advocacy—they are to have the paper under a new name—then, indeed (if that could be proved), you had better not change it. I believe, however, that most of your readers will be pleased with there being a *chance of your increased usefulness*, by reaching a wider circle under a new, and (as it will soon be) a distinguished name. Those who are so strongly opposed to the change will only read your pages with increased avidity to see if their fears are realised; and, as for Mr. Besley's intimation that he will expect the money he originally invested in the paper returned, because the name was in the bond, why, I daresay your readers will come forward to relieve you from that trouble as handsomely as they have done on other occasions.

I have read all the "pros and cons" of your correspondents in reference to the proposed change of the name of the *Nonconformist*. My sympathy is certainly with the change, inasmuch as it necessitates no compromise of principle, being only a lawful expediency; and because I am convinced that its present name, if not the only, is the greatest barrier to its introduction amid circles where its teachings are most needed. That its distinctive principles will remain unchanged I have no doubt, and I cannot refrain from giving expression to my surprise at the annoying insinuations in some of the letters you have received on the subject. Could your friends point to any precedent in your political history to justify suspicions—which are as ungenerous as they are gratuitous—that a change of name *may* involve a modification of some of the characteristic sentiments of your paper—if not a change of those principles which have hitherto been its charm, and imparted to it a dignity of position which some of its contemporaries would be proud to occupy—then a word of caution and misgiving would be reasonable, not to say necessary. But allow me to say, they are paying him—towards whom they had previously indulged in expressions of approbation and confidence almost extravagant—a very humble compliment in supposing that he is likely to do violence to those very principles which have contributed to the honourable position he now occupies as a member of the British Senate. I have not so studied the character of the editor of the *Nonconformist*, and I believe that the secret ambition of his future life will be, how the dissemination and better working of those principles (which have hitherto been advocated with such distinguished ability and power) may be more abundantly and successfully achieved. Wishing your future career may be one of increasing usefulness and happiness, I assure you that under whatever name your paper may appear, to me it will be, as it ever has been, a privilege to have it.

I have no objection whatever to the name of the *Nonconformist* in itself, but must confess my sympathy with those who imagine that a change of name would be advantageous in obtaining for it an introduction into circles from which, at present, its very name excludes it.

Many, if not most, of those who object to the change, seem to entertain an apprehension that a new name would affect the character of your journal. Could I entertain such a suspicion of you, sir, I think I should not deem it worth while to plead either for the change or retention of the name; but give up it, and the paper, and the editor, altogether.

But my confidence in your unflinching fidelity is unshaken, and though I should regard a new name, if appropriate, an improvement, the retention of the old one would not prevent me from continuing to be, what I have been for the last six or seven years, one of your subscribers.

I do not hesitate for a moment in recommending a change of name. No consistent, honest Dissenter, would think of withdrawing his support from the *Noncon*, with merely a new heading attached to it. What's in the name to them, provided the matter is the same. Not so with Churchmen. They have prejudices that Dissenters repudiate; and I have no doubt with a new name, you would get a hearing from persons who, at present, take up the paper, look at the heading, and drop it again, as not belonging to them. Don't hesitate. Change your name, and rest assured it betrays no weakness.

NEGATIVE.

I have been a constant and admiring reader of your superior journal for several years, and I should be very sorry to see its significant title supplanted by another; though, whatever be its future name, I shall continue to give it a warm welcome, in the confident belief, that from your past conduct, its principles will remain unchanged.

But, apart from personal feelings and associations, I cannot see the force of many of the arguments brought forward by some of the affirmatives in favour of changing the name. If the title be offensive to certain parties, much more so must be the principles advocated therein; for I cannot fancy persons so silly as to object to read a paper, the name and contents of which so beautifully correspond. When we consider that under this banner you have fought so nobly and successfully, and gained such a high position; and when those principles you so ably advocate have gained such a wide diffusion, and such a permanent footing among all classes, which they did not possess in the years of the *Nonconformist's* infancy, what may we not expect in the years of its maturity? Shall its success not be in proportion to its age? Oh, sir, strike not the old flag until the all-prevailing truth has triumphed, in the merging of Conformist and Nonconformist, in the glorious liberty of a free and untrammelled Christianity. But, after all the *pros* and *cons*, I can safely leave the issue with yourself, well pleased whichever way your superior judgment decides.

It would be, perhaps, a curious question, and one to which I have as yet seen no allusion, but I confess I should like, were it possible, to ascertain on which side the preponderance of anti-state-church members lies—whether affirmative or negative—in your published opinions; and should be quite willing to surrender my individual opinion—which is decidedly averse to any alteration—to the decision of the majority of such.

The hitherto bold and unflinching champion of that institution should be careful not to afford the slightest hope to its enemies that he was about to abandon so holy and righteous a cause; nor to produce the least degree of discouragement among its friends, by changing a name so thoroughly identified with all its acts and proceedings.

I have a brother, a deacon of a Dissenting church, who occasionally reads the *Noncon*, does not like many of its outspoken and manly statements, and often says, you are fighting against the air. He is also a perpetual magistrate, and by virtue of his office, has lately signed distress warrants on his fellow Dissenters for non-payment of church-rates. Can it be supposed that a change of name without the change of the principles of the *Noncon*, can satisfy such Dissenters as this? If not, retain the name, and let us have honest men to work with, rather than enemies in disguise. Sir, if the name of your paper is changed, for the sake of expediency, many of your supporters will think *you changed to*, and depend on it, the sooner you decide the better, for there is a feeling of great dissatisfaction relative to this matter. I am glad you have courted inquiry, and my impression is, that if you follow the wishes of the majority of your supporters, we shall look out weekly for the *Nonconformist*.

Having read nearly every number of the *Noncon* that has been published, and having obtained for it, perhaps, as many readers as any of your subscribers, allow me to say I shall see its name altered with the greatest regret. First, because it is, in my judgment, the most expressive word that can be used to designate its principles. Secondly, to change its name, will look as if a Parliamentary position was sapping your antagonism to the State Church. Thirdly, it will engender suspicions (and naturally so, I think), that the political, rather than the religious sentiment, is henceforth to guide you.

Having thus far associated yourself with all that is noble in history, do not descend from that glorious pedestal in order to catch the eye of a few politicians, who are so Conservative as to be frightened at the cognomen of a weekly paper; which reminds them (unpleasantly enough it may be) of the immortal deeds of the fathers and founders of British liberty. I say, stick to the old name, and preserve the *prestige* of your power.

When it is said that the Anti-state-church Association has taken up a new position, it seems to be forgotten that the new—namely, the advanced position, is to be ascribed to the influence of the *Nonconformist*. When it is said that the paper ought to be a power in Parliament, it seems to be overlooked, that it has been that power already, causing many to be sent thither whose voices otherwise might never have been heard within its wall. Thus on reasons which prove the paper to have been successful, with its present title, is founded the claim for assuming some other. You are counselled to apprehend no harm in casting away the term in question. Harm, however, may come to men's feelings even when they are not driven from the ranks of your supporters. What would have been the effect had those who joined in the heart-cheering cry of "Scotland for ever," been forbidden to alter it, and compelled to substitute some epithet with which the British could more generally sympathize? The report of such change of name would have sounded in the ears of the brave Scotch as the knell of their dying enthusiasm—enthusiasm which was necessary to those achievements that bore victory away on the field of Waterloo. It is possible, then, that while enthusiasm might kindle in the minds of some by a new name, on old veterans it might operate to damp and chill.

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE PEACE CONGRESS.

A public meeting was held in the Music Hall, Edinburgh, on Thursday evening, in connexion with the of the Peace sittings Conference. The large hall was crowded to excess, many being obliged to go away, and the platform was occupied by the leading members of the Conference. Sir Charles Napier was seated immediately on the left of the Lord Provost, who presided.

The Chairman briefly explained the object of the meeting, and the course of proceedings to be adopted.

Mr. Richard, the Secretary, then read the resolutions which had been passed at the Conference.

Mr. Elihu Burritt (who was received with loud cheers) dwelt on the impolicy of an armed peace, as being a direct and aggravated violation of those principles of justice and equity which regulated the intercourse of individuals in every civilised society. Every independent Government in Europe represented a high Court of Justice, to which not only every individual of the State was amenable, but to which the State itself was amenable. Thus every compact or obligation was null and void if it could be proved that one of the parties was under the slighest fear of the other, or restricted in any way in the free exercise of his own will in signing the agreement. The justice of this principle was so self-evident, that it enacted itself into a law. Now, he would appeal to every honest mind if the practice of armed negotiation between Governments was not the most aimless and aggravated violation of this principle of justice and equity. Compacts made under such circumstances were based on the very foundation which made null and void all other treaties. What was the object of these armaments but a manifestation of brute force in order to overawe or compel more favourable terms? On what principle of equity could Governments negotiate with each other when some one must be at a disadvantage. ("Hear," and applause.) Both parties, in strict justice, should negotiate, not only with free will, but also with good will, that the agreements might be ratified by permanent satisfaction. (Hear, hear.) The precarious tenure of obligations contracted under such circumstances, was another consequence of the system, and rendered armies and navies indispensable in order to enforce and perpetuate their authority. (Cheers.) Two other evils also resulted from the system. In the first place, this insane policy excited a tempest of angry passions on both sides, which imposed an insuperable obstacle to the adjustment of the question. And, secondly, the experience of the past years proved that until the Governments of Christendom, in a time of active peace, should enter into a stipulated bond to refer to arbitration any question which they cannot settle themselves—there would be armed negotiation adopted in some form to embarrass the difficulty, and rouse the war spirit, and increase the preparations for war. Already, however, the arbitration principle was beginning to be adopted. Only lately a serious controversy between the United States and Spain had been referred to France, and decided, he was glad to say, in favour of the weaker Power. (Cheers.) More recently a treaty had been ratified between Great Britain and the United States, by which all reciprocal claims since 1814 were to be referred to arbitration. (Cheers.) They were now, therefore, approaching the happy consummation, and blessed, thrice blessed, be the union of these two branches of the Anglo-Saxon family—(loud cheers, several times renewed)—and all the nations of the earth would rise up and pronounce them blessed if now henceforward they co-ert with all the energies in their power, in this grand enterprise of human brotherhood. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Burritt concluded by moving all the resolutions adopted by the Congress.

The Rev. Mr. Burnet, of London, supported the resolutions in a humorous and effective speech.

Mr. Cobden, M.P., was received with an enthusiastic burst of applause. He commenced by referring to the proceedings of the Manchester Conference, the 10,000*l.* fund, and the resolution to hold two or three conferences in the year, rather than a single one, in order that the public mind might be enlightened. The present was one of the series. He then glanced at the proceedings of the last two days, and the objects they wished to promote, as evidence of the growing strength of their cause. They were gathering around them the same men that fought the battle of free trade. The cause of peace was the legacy left by free trade, and the men who won the first would win the second cause. (Cheers.) The resolutions they had passed, not the speeches delivered, embodied the sentiments and objects of the Conference.

We advocate the cause of arbitration in lieu of fighting, in the agreement of disputes; and surely anybody above the rank of savages would say that's a desirable end to accomplish. (Loud cheers.) There may be many who will doubt its practicability. But it is with those people that we wish to argue this question. We say, submit your disputes to arbitration, and if you cannot settle your disputes in that way, if you should afterwards resort to the sword, still you will be no worse off than you are by resorting to the sword without arbitration. (Hear.) You may tell me that there is no court of appeal to command and enforce the fulfilment of the decree of the arbitrator. It is perfectly true. But if, on the other hand, our policy be carried out, I believe countries like France and England will enter into a solemn treaty that any question which may arise, which cannot be settled by mutual discussion and negotiation, should be referred to an arbitrator mutually chosen; this arbitrator shall have the power finally to decide the question at issue—that being understood, that being, in fact, the solemn treaty binding the two countries; and if by any chance there should a quarrel arise, and either of these countries refuse to submit the question of dispute to the decision of the arbitrator, then I say, if it comes in the end to war, that country enters the conflict branded with infamy in the eyes of the civilised world—(cheers)—inasmuch as she has violated the solemn treaty she had entered into before, she is the disturber of the civilised world; and she would bring the civilised world down upon her. (Loud cheers.) Well, now, we say we advocate a mutual reduction of armaments. We don't say disband your army, sink your fleet, and place yourself prostrate before any enemy that may come to attack you. But what we say is, that if France and England have each ten ships of the line on commission watching each other from opposite parts of the coast, then it is plain their relative strength towards each other would be precisely the same if they would each reduce their number from ten to five. (Loud and continued cheers.) It is a simple question of arithmetic; and some day or other, when a future generation, wiser than we, look back on our labours, and the difficulty we had in convincing the statesmen of our day that three had the same reference to three that six has to six, will they not be astonished at the stolidity of this generation; and if they had any of there grievances to redress, or reforms to effect, surely, I think, they may take courage in the midst of difficulty, when they find how much difficulty we had to accomplish so trivial an object as that. (Cheers.) Now, I am glad, on this account, that we have a gallant gentleman with us—if he will allow me I will call him my gallant friend—for we have walked pretty generally, though not always into the same lobby, in the House of Commons together. We have a gallant officer here who, if you are to have a fight instead of arbitration, will do your business as well as anybody you can get. (Loud cheers.) This gallant admiral has come from London, warm from the City of London Tavern, bringing with him a spirit impatient for more decisive proceedings on this troubled Eastern question. (Cheers.) The gallant gentleman has declared his disapproval of the course which we have taken. And I have no doubt that he has come here to-night to state the grounds upon which that disapprobation is founded. (Cheers.) I should only be anticipating the duty which your right honourable chairman can perform as well as any man in England, in offering him, in your name, the most courteous reception, and the most patient attention—(cheers)—in all that he may have to address to this meeting. And now, whilst explaining to the public, it is a manifest reflection that we are at the same time explaining to a gallant and worthy opponent like him what are our real principles and objects.

Admiral Sir Charles Napier: How do you know I am your opponent?

Mr. Cobden: My gallant friend says, "How do you know that I am your opponent?" I have no doubt that before we are done with him we shall make an ally of my gallant friend. (Loud cheers.) That will be our business to-night. He is worth converting, I assure you. (Laughter and cheers.)

Mr. Cobden then contended that expenditure and improvements in our warlike armaments were without a limit. One discovery followed another, and the rivalry in armaments became a game of "beggar my neighbour." The sailing vessel was superseded by the paddle steamer, and that in turn had given place to the screw-propeller in our naval armaments.

But now have you got to the end of it? I see by the papers great laudation of these new screw vessels. I have seen statements made that the Duke of Wellington battleship is the most enormous war vessel in our whole fleet, and as such the best security for perpetual peace—(cheers)—that the Duke of Wellington and the Agamemnon, with their great screw propellers are the greatest guarantees we could have of permanent peace. ("Hear, hear," from Sir Charles Napier.) My gallant friend here says "Hear, hear," but I have not done yet. (Cheers.) Now the Duke of Wellington is a ship about 350 feet in length, and I believe measures about 50 feet odd from the deck to the bottom of the hold. It is an enormous structure. Well, but had they stood still with their screw vessels of 2,000 or 3,000 tons it would not have been so bad. I see there is a vessel coming from America which is from 6,000 to 7,000 tons burthen. But that is not all. In the great fire recently in the yard of Mr. Scott Russell, there was destroyed the model of a vessel, the whole particulars of which I had from himself two months before; the money was subscribed, the dimensions were all settled; and that vessel, what do you think were its dimensions? 12,000 tons, with an engine 2,000 horse power to drive the paddle wheels and the screw propeller, for it happened that an ingenious mechanic had taken another look at the fish. He had seen that besides the tail it had fins—(a laugh)—and he says we must have a vessel that is not only a paddle but a screw also, and here is the plan for the vessel: she was to be 12,000 tons, upwards of 500 feet in length, with paddle wheels at the sides, and a screw propeller at the stern, and having three engines with a united horse power of 2,000. Now, I have seen it stated most triumphantly in our papers, and copied into the French journals, that this Duke of Wellington, a little more than a quarter the size of the vessel of which I have spoken, which, as I have told you, was laid down and will be constructed—well, the Duke of Wellington had such power with its screw, in consequence of its bulk, it could run down into halves a frigate by the mere propulsion of its engine, and without feeling any shock in the collision. Well, if this steamer is carried out and built of materials equal to her tonnage, why that vessel with its screw and paddle-wheels, with an enormous weight and size and length, may run down the Duke of Wellington just as she was able to run down the frigate? (Loud cheers.) Well, then, what suppose the French Government, or any other Government, chooses to come and buy from Mr. Scott Russell, or order a vessel of these dimensions, would our gallant visitor tell us then that the Duke of Wellington is the best guarantee for universal and perpetual peace? (Great cheering.) Will the 3,500 tons be a match for the 12,000? No. And do you suppose that human intellect and ingenuity will stop there? I have heard it surmised that they won't stop at 12,000 tons; that the principle of extension and progress, found most prevalent in our manufactories and other great works, will be applied to ships, and there is no earthly reason to hinder them constructing vessels of 20,000 tons on the principles applied to the construction of the great Menai tubular bridge, so that we may soon see great ferry boats carrying the population of a whole town across the Atlantic, and leaving them in Milford Haven, or landing their passengers on the first bold headland of the American coast, to find their destinations by railway as best they may.

Now, there was no limit to the expense they might be put to if they continued this rivalry of armaments. Would the gallant general deal with that principle? They also advocated non-intervention, and, if that were adopted, each nation would be able to manage its own affairs. They wanted a reform of the colonial system, and he suggested the desirableness of a motion, next session, for diminishing military expenditure in that direction. Then they had passed a resolution affirming the desirableness of encouraging, by every possible means, intercourse between nations. There was, for instance, ocean penny-postage, a question which Mr. Elihu Burritt had made eminently practical. They were deeply indebted to him for his exertions in that cause. (Cheers.) It was spoken of at the conclusion of the last session in terms of respect and approbation from all sides of the House—(great cheering)—and in the next session of Parliament they would have a committee on it, and he felt no more doubt that this ocean penny-postage would be carried into law, than of the existence of that admirable scheme for which they were indebted to Mr. Rowland Hill. Mr. Cobden then addressed himself to the Eastern question, recapitulating his remarks of the previous day, as to the condition of the Christian population of Turkey. He then continued:—

I don't feel very much concerned about this attack upon Turkey, unless I can see some other way of accomplishing the amelioration of the Christians of Turkey, than that proposed by the Emperor of Russia. (Hear.) I totally differ from our gallant visitor here in the sentiments he expressed when he attended the meeting at the London Tavern. He said there, towards the conclusion of his speech, after he had been advocating our own intervention by force of arms to coerce Russia in this matter: "I hope the Turkish Government will be induced to fulfil the promises it made towards the Christians which are not fulfilled." And he wound up by saying, "I could say a good deal more about that, but it might appear to be prejudicing you against Turkey." (A laugh.) But now we are for the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. Our gallant visitor knows the breach of promises on the part of the Turkish Government. (Hear, hear.) He knows that the promises made upon former occasions have been nothing more than waste paper. He knows that the pashas and cadis are no more reached by an edict than the subjects of the Empire of China would be reached by a British act of Parliament. Oh, but he says, "I won't say anything about that now. Let us go and give Russia a good thrashing, because Russia wants to set this matter right, which ought to have been set right, which was promised to be set right, but don't say anything about it just now." (Laughter.) But this is the very time to speak about it. I will now say a few words upon the interest England has in the matter. I say we don't come into the Court of National Judicature with clean hands. And for us to call public meetings, and pass such resolutions as were passed at Leicester and elsewhere, with our hands reeking with the blood of the Burmese at this moment—to talk of our being so indignant that we cannot remain in abeyance while Russia is doing something not quite so illogical as Lord Dalhousie and Commodore Lambert are doing, something second only in enormity to what was practised in the Court of Ava—to pretend that we can call God's vengeance upon the nations of the world for that, is presumption and hypocrisy. And therefore, whilst admitting the acts to be acts of wrong and high-handed injustice, as between the Governments of Russia and Turkey, whilst reprobating the conduct as illogical, base, mean, and as what may be described in one of the shortest epithets of the English language, but which I will express by ——, while we reprobate and despise it, I don't think we are the parties called upon to exercise physical force, to exercise vengeance upon the authors of these wrongs. I come now to the only question with us. Is it our interest to go to war with Russia in consequence of the encroachments and acts of injustice which Russia is performing towards Turkey. What are the arguments upon which we are to go to war for our own interest. I don't set up the argument of interest. The argument of interest is set up by our opponents, and it is urged, that if Russia is allowed to conquer Turkey, our possessions will be in danger from his aggressive movements. What does that amount to? It amounts to this, that because I assume that Russia is going to beat Turkey, and add to his territory, and acquire enormous power by means of taking that territory, and then he is coming to attack you. They assume all that to be true, and they will ask you to go to war in order to avoid what is to happen. But I don't admit all these dogmatical premises. In the first place, I don't admit that the accession of territory necessarily leads to the increase of the power of a State. I have visited Turkey and Russia sufficiently to enable me to understand what I read about these countries; and from what I know of Russia, I believe she would be more powerful from this moment if she adopted a pacific course, deepened her rivers, widened their channels, increased the fertility of her soil, and attended generally to the development of her internal resources. She would increase in power more by that than by pursuing a warlike course. The more you extend your surface, the more you weaken the centre. If Russia, instead of two capitals, Moscow and St. Petersburgh, takes Constantinople as a third, I believe that instead of tending to increase her power, in twenty years it would have an opposite effect. I know this is not the popular opinion, because there is a universal desire in the mind of man to acquire more territory. The farmer, who has got 500 acres of land, and has not sufficient capital to work it well, will endeavour to increase his number of acres; and his neighbours will think him more profitably engaged with his large number of acres, insufficiently tilled though they be. But that opinion is not sound and philosophical, and does not work to the advantage of individuals. And the same principle applies to States. But, in the next place, I don't take the encroachments of Russia upon Turkey as a sign, still less as a proof, that Russia wants to encroach upon us. Russia, it is true, is evidently encroaching upon her neighbours in the East, because her neighbours are a decaying, disorderly, and anarchical people. Nations don't perish from without: they always perish by suicide from within. I say the case of Turkey is precisely that case. You have Russia, a less barbarous country, better organised, and, with all its faults, more progressive and industrious than Turkey; and you find Russia encroaching upon Turkey. Well, I therefore deny that you have proof that the encroachments of Russia are necessarily to lead to

this vast increase of power that is to overshadow the world. I say, that taking the course that Russia has pursued for the last thirty years, and comparing that with the progress of the United States, you will find that where Russia has advanced three, the United States of America have advanced at least to thirty. That is at the least the comparative progress of the two countries. Measuring the power England has gained during the last thirty years against Russia, we have increased four or five times more in real power and wealth than the Russian empire. Now, I don't say this as an argument that we should encourage Russia to attack Turkey. But when you say I should go to war to prevent danger to this country, I want strong proof of danger before I go to war to avert what is, after all, but a calamity in imagination. But I am told that we must go to war with Russia, because Russia is an anti-commercial country, and Turkey favours commerce. I am not disposed to admit the premises. I deny that Russia has ever been an anti-commercial country. No Government in the world has shown more carefulness to extend commerce and manufactures wherever they have extended their empire than the Russians. That is our complaint against them, that when they took her territory they shut us out with their tariffs. But shutting out by tariffs does not make people an anti-commercial people. We formerly put on a restrictive tariff, but that protection, as it was called, did not make us an anti-commercial people, but was intended to benefit this country by making this country's commerce more profitable. Russia has become a restrictive country, but there is no restriction imposed by her half so indefensible as that which we put upon her corn up to within the last ten years. And I would here point to this fact, that all the commerce you have, and the world has, with the Black Sea, has been made by the Russian encroachments on the borders of that sea; for until the Russian Government erected Odessa there was no communication by the Black Sea. Where do you get your corn from now? Odessa; yet Odessa was the result of the encroachments of Russia. They tell me that you are going to lose the trade with Wallachia and Moldavia because the Russians are going to make further encroachments upon that country. I am told by the best authorities connected with that trade, that all the commerce growing up in those countries is owing to the more settled government consequent upon the encroachments of Russia. Don't take my opinion. Turn to M'Culloch's dictionary, to the head of Odessa, and read his description of those Russians about whom we are now discussing. M'Culloch, writing in a commercial spirit, says that whatever objections there may be in a political sense, to the encroachments of Russia upon the Black Sea, by giving greater order to its Government and greater security to its industry, it has undoubtedly tended to improve the commercial relations of these regions. In the face of these facts, am I to go to war to prevent the possibility of our losing some of our trade to Constantinople? ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) Don't assume that I want to argue that we should encourage Russia in her aggressions. I want merely to show that the arguments with which they want to urge us on to war are such as the people of this country, in their own interest, ought not to accept. I am told the tariff of Turkey is very favourable. It is quite true that the Turks have so far despised foreign commerce, and had so little faith in their power of collecting duties at the outports, that they have never attempted to collect duties upon the exports from foreign countries. But to say that Turkey has done this in the interest of commerce, because they wish to encourage trade in exports and imports, is to misunderstand the character of that country. Go into the interior of the Turkish empire, and inquire what security there is for the cultivator of that country? Wherever a pasha may levy his exactions, the rudest mode of plundering the peasant is resorted to—that of handing in the produce as he grows it. Let me see what security there is for the internal communications of the country. Ask how a camel load comes from the interior to Smyrna, and see what security there is? Why, that magnificent country, that contained in ancient times nearly the civilisation of the world, is given up to such a state of brigandage that even the merchants of Smyrna dare not go seven miles from Smyrna to their country-house, for they would be carried off by bands of brigands for the sake of obtaining a large ransom for their recovery. It is absurd to talk of such a country as that being favourable to commerce. When I hear of returns being made to the House of Commons of the comparison of our exports to Turkey and Russia, I say give us the imports as well as the exports. As a Free-trader, I value imports as well as the exports. Let us see the amount of the tallow, the hemp, and the corn, we get from that country, and how we pay for it. It is true, Russia, copying our example, puts on high duties upon our manufactures, but we take raw cotton to Petersburgh, and exchange it for tallow, hemp, and corn, which is a profitable trade. You have a larger proportion of tonnage carrying on trade with Russia than with any other country. But when people talk about the trade with Turkey, I beg to remind them of one fact, that they are arguing in our favour; because the trade is carried on, not by the Turks, but by Christians. Whoever heard of a Turkish vessel coming from Turkey, manned with Turks, bringing over freight here for the purposes of commerce. You have sixty Greek merchants in Manchester, who carry on all the trade with Constantinople in British manufactured goods. It is the Greeks and Christians, who have the wealth and enterprise of that country, that I wish to be considered in this controversy. (Hear, hear.) The very fact that commerce is in the hands of Christians, is a proof that you cannot long secure that supremacy of Turks over Christians which it is the object of our diplomatists to accomplish, but which they never will effect. Now, my gallant neighbour here, I see, used a rather peculiar phrase that fell from me some years ago at a meeting, with regard to "crumpling up the Russian empire." Now the phrase I used was at a meeting on the subject of the Hungarian invasion, in 1849. I attended a meeting in the City of London Tavern, to protest against the invasion of Hungary by Russia. Russia was allowed then to march her armies across Wallachia and Moldavia to strike a death blow against Hungary, and no protest was ever raised against this by our Government. And it is my deliberate conviction, from a patient study of our blue books, and it is the conviction of those illustrious [illegible] engaged in that Hungarian struggle, that if Lord [illegible] had made a simple verbal protest in energetic [illegible] would never have invaded Hungary [illegible] Wallachia and Moldavia. It was [illegible] Ministers of the Czar of Russia almost went down upon their knees to entreat him not to embark in that struggle between Austria and Hungary. Our protest would have been backed by the Ministers of the Czar, if it had been made, and I believe would have prevented that most atrocious outrage upon the rights and liberties of a constitutional country. I said, on that occasion, when I attended a public meeting in the City of London Tavern, in the midst of all that excitement and frenzy in favour of Hungarian nationality, I said I would resist any attempt to send any force to fight the battles of Hungary on the banks on the Danube. I did not disguise my views on the subject any more than I do now. While condemning the conduct of Russia towards Turkey, I will not sanction the sending of any soldiers to fight in favour of Turkey. I have never sanctioned intervention by force of arms in foreign disputes, and when I send any men to fight my battles I will take part in them myself. (A laugh.) I said also that if Russia did attack us, such were the enormous resources of this country—its resources of wealth and scientific application, that we could crumple up her empire by blockading her ports, and sealing them hermetically, so that she could have no communication whatever with the civilised world.

Mr. Cobden next alluded to the reason why he rated at so low a value the power of the Russian empire beyond her own dominions, which was her want of wealth. He recapitulated the occasions on which Russia had to contract foreign loans with Amsterdam and London, and affirmed his conviction that, whatever was the issue of this dispute, Russia could not go on without another loan. He knew no cause for going to war, but if it was thought necessary to interfere, he suggested that, instead of resorting to physical force, they should first try the effect of a system of outlawry, such as making it penal to contract for a Russian loan, prohibiting the sale of Russian Stock, which he considered would strike as severe a blow at the power, ambition, and pretensions of that country as if they sent a fleet to Besika Bay. As an illustration of the absurdity of keeping up military and naval armament to convince other nations of our ability to resist attacks, Mr. Cobden directed attention to the United States, where they had only one line-of-battle ship in commission, and whose army consisted of only 10,000 or 12,000 men, yet their enterprise, industry, immense resources, and lightness of taxation rendered them in the eyes of other nations a Power which they would beware of coming into collision with. He ridiculed the conduct of the boy-emperor of Austria in engaging his troops in so many fields of mimic battle, remarking that if that plain man in black clothes, in a room in Washington, were to send a frigate to Trieste with a hostile message, that boy-emperor's heart would at once be in his jack-boots at the very thought. He concluded a long and eloquent address as follows:—

It is peace, and consequently low expenditure—it is peace, and consequently extension of education, and social and moral improvement—it is peace, and constant attention to domestic reforms which peace only can give, which has enabled the United States to spring into that position which she now occupies in the world—a position which is yet unknown to this old Europe of ours, but which will one day startle those who have hitherto shut their eyes to her great power. These are the principles which have made the United States of America great as she is. Now, I say, in advocating this policy, we will amazingly increase the power and wealth of this country. We see that reduction of taxation, as in the case of the corn laws, gives expansion to our industry, improves the condition of the masses of the people, and leaves you a greater measure of time to follow out education, and every social reform. Well, I say, do not let us be overcome by mere barbaric force when we are pursuing a policy calculated to give us all these elements which civilisation and commerce can alone bestow. This is our policy. This is the policy which we have met for the last two days to promote. I have lately seen it stated by a distinguished statesman (Mr. Gladstone), to whom we are much indebted, and who, I am glad to see, you proposed to honour, by making him like myself a citizen of Edinburgh—(cheers)—I see that distinguished statesman lately said "party was at an end in this country." I say, there is much truth in what Horace Walpole said, that the "death of party in Constitutional States is the birth of faction. We must have parties or we shall have no principles, and we must have principles in order to have a party." Now, there is wanted a party—a party which embraces every element of progress—which embraces reform of every kind—which embraces the only solid career of liberty—which embraces the social improvement and prosperity of the people—and a party whom statesmen will be glad some day to rally round, as they once did on another question—that party shall be the peace party. (Mr. Cobden resumed his seat amid loud cheering.)

The Lord Provost here intimated that it was originally arranged that Mr. Bright should now address the meeting, but he had given way to Sir Charles Napier. The gallant admiral, it was understood, was not to move an amendment, and he (the Lord Provost) hoped the meeting would give him a patient and deferential hearing. (Cheers.)

Sir Charles Napier, who was received with loud and repeated cheers, said, it may perhaps appear extraordinary that a naval officer and an admiral should come forward to address a peace meeting. It is generally supposed, and that very improperly, that naval and military men are always for war, and for large establishments, and that they have no ideas beyond bloodshed.

But I beg leave to tell you that this is a most erroneous notion. (Cheers.) Lord Nelson was not fond of bloodshed or war. (Renewed cheers.) And if you read Lord Nelson's private letters, you will find that he was always wishing for peace. The Duke of Wellington was always a peace man after the war was over. (Loud laughter and applause.) He was always for peace; and he succeeded in preserving peace. And I can assure the citizens of Edinburgh—and I am proud of being a citizen of your city—(cheers)—that I am just as anxious for peace as my honourable friend who sits at my right hand (Mr. Cobden), or any gentleman in this assembly. But we may differ as to the means of obtaining peace, and we may still more differ as to the means for preserving peace. (Hear, hear.) And I must say that I do not think that the plan propounded by my honourable friend, Mr. Cobden, is exactly the way to preserve the peace of this country. (Cheers.) The honourable gentleman has said very fairly and very properly, and it has a very excellent appearance, coming, as it does, with all that beauty of language which he is capable of using, that if France agreed to reduce her force to ten sail of the line, and that if we agreed to reduce our force to ten sail of the line also, they would both be placed on equal terms: Granted. And he said farther, that if we reduce our force to five sail of the line, and the French did the same, we would be exactly on the same footing. But my honourable friend forgot to tell you that the French have an army of 400,000 or 500,000 men, and that Britain has an army in this country of little more than 20,000 men. (Hear.) With all the great exertions which the Government could make the other day, and with all the military display at Chobham, what did it produce? The first division consisted of 8,000 men, and the reserved division consisted of 8,000, but they could not assemble their 16,000 men at one time at the camp at Chobham. (Cheers.) Well, now, supposing we follow Mr. Cobden's advice and the opinion of the Peace Society, which I most perfectly respect, and their views are perfectly right—(applause)—if you can possibly carry them into execution—(laughter)—but, suppose we have only an army of 20,000 men, and the French have an army of 400,000 or 500,000 men, which there is no doubt they have, and that with only this small force a quarrel should arise between France and us. My friend will perhaps tell me that we have no right to quarrel, that there is no necessity for it, that we might live at peace, and must be persuaded to keep the peace. But should it unfortunately happen that we are not at peace, what is to prevent the French from embarking any number of men they thought fit, from seizing our steam boats, and from coming over to our country; and, let me ask, how we are to defend ourselves? (Cheers.) Are we to be laid bare and open before the world? Are all our men and women to be exposed to a French army, or any other army that may come over here, because quarrels and misunderstandings will take place? We have seen them take place, and that not long ago; and I will explain what did take place at that very time to which I refer, which will show you dangers which you were not perhaps aware of. I read this morning a speech of my friend Mr. Cobden, in which he gave you a very amusing relation that is quite true. He supposes that a gentleman had left this country a year ago, and who, when he left, had seen the militia called out because there was a talk of a French invasion. He goes out to Australia, and never reads a newspaper till he has made a circuit of the world. On coming back, how astonished is he to find the English and French fleets lying side by side in Besika Bay, with their broadsides to each other, but not for hostile purposes, but entertaining each other in the most amicable manner possible. But what caused that? It was the unjustifiable quarrel which Russia had against Turkey. (Cheers.) I will accompany Mr. Cobden first to Australia, with another friend. Suppose another friend goes to Australia in the same vessel, and that, previous to his going, he had been in the City of London Tavern, and had heard Mr. Cobden talk about crumpling up Russia like a piece of brown paper, and if, from the period he had left till he returns home, he had never read a newspaper, and the first thing he sees is that Russia is very quietly walking into the two Principalities, what would he think of that? He would think, at all events, that they had not been crumpled up. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Cobden had been trying to-night to explain away what he had said then; and he had great power in making you believe almost anything he chose (Laughter.)

After stating that naval and military officers had no cause to be fond of war, seeing the great risks they run, the gallant admiral said—

I will now tell you exactly the position in which the English and French fleets were some years ago, as Mr. Cobden had informed you that they were now lying peaceably besides each other in Besika Bay. It is just twelve years ago since they were lying in Besika Bay in the same peaceful manner. We were lying cheek by jowl apparently on the most friendly terms; but while that is the case, what were the French doing but meditating to destroy our fleet—

Mr. Cobden: Then why go there again?

Sir Charles Napier: My honourable friend asks me why we should go there again to lie side by side. That is another question; but let us look at the exact state of matters at the period to which I was referring. France differed with the Allied Powers about the last Eastern question. Whether we were or were not right is not now the question; but France differed in opinion from us. She withdrew her fleet from Besika Bay to Toulon; she increased her fleet by the enormous means she has in her power to twenty sail of the line. With the greatest exertions we could possibly make, we have mustered not more than fourteen or fifteen sail in the Mediterranean at the moment France had twenty. It was contemplated by M. Thiers, who was then at the head of the French Government, to surprise the British fleet, and thus to save Mehemet Ali, who had also a large fleet at Alexandria. It was Sir Robert Peel who said he had three courses to follow. Now, one or other of these courses would have been at least destructive to us. The first course was to bring the twenty sail of the line to Alexandria, to inclose the Turkish fleet, and drive us from the coast. And, had he done that, he would have accomplished his object, and have received Mehemet Ali. (Hear, hear.) Then, as to the second course. He was lying at Toulon a full month or six weeks in advance of us. The whole force we had was fifteen or sixteen sail of the line in the Mediterranean, dispersed all over the coast. We could not move a single line of battle ship in England. Now, I ask the ladies and gentleman here assembled, what would have been the situation of this country in case of war, with the French fleet at Cherbourg, and with not one single ship in this country manned. What was there to prevent the sending an army of 50,000 or 60,000 men over to this country, and who would have defended you? (Hear, hear.) Would our 10,000 or 15,000 troops do because we had no more. And yet my honourable friend has still a wish to disarm this country. In consequence of the remonstrances which he and the Peace Society made to Lord John Russell and the Whig Government in 1848, they succeeded in diminishing the fleet to almost nothing; and I believe that the Emperor of Russia would never have attempted

NEWSPAPER

this aggression against Turkey if we had a fleet at the time who could have said, "Keep the peace." (Cheers.) My honourable friend talks of economy. Let me ask him where is the economy. In 1848, through his exertions—I give him credit for it—(a laugh)—for he can almost do anything he undertakes, particularly with a weak Government—(laughter)—in 1848, he succeeded in diminishing the English troops by 5,000 or 6,000, and in getting paid off six or seven sail of the line for two or three years; and these ships were put in ordinary after they had been full manned and were disciplined, and ready for whatever might occur and what happens? (Hear, hear.) Why, we were just again, in the course of two years, forced to recruit the army; the Whig Government was afraid of my honourable friend, and it was the Tory Government (I give them credit for it) who were bold enough to come forward and tell the country that it was necessary to increase the army and navy, and they carried the proposition through the House of Commons—I may say with acclamation. My honourable friend, I remember, made a speech on the occasion, stating that he would not resist the proposition, because if the Ministry asked for 20,000 men, he believed it would be carried by acclamation. We have now a decent and respectable force. (Laughter, and cheers.) But my honourable friend has spoken of what France has done, and what we have done, and gives us a rebuke. He says we began with the war steamers. My honourable friend is mistaken. The French began erecting war steamers long before us; and we were obliged to do the same. The same thing took place in regard to screw steamers. It was the French, and not we, who began them; and we got so frightened about the matter, seeing what our neighbours had done, that the Government set vigorously to work; and we have established now a screw force which I believe will ensure to the country perfect security and safety. And if the people of this country do not choose to pay an insurance for their safety and protection, let them come forward with the Peace Conference, and petition the Government to destroy the army and navy, leaving the protection of the country to whoever chooses. Don't suppose I am particularly friendly to the Turks. I do not care if the Turks were across the Bosphorus to-morrow; but I don't wish to see their place taken by Russia. I think it will be the most unfortunate thing for Europe at large, and for this country, if Russia gets the Christians of Turkey under her dominion.

After showing the great extent of country over which Russia would in that case bear sway, and stating that, if she succeeded, Russia would exclude this country from the Baltic and the Mediterranean, he said that this country was bound to do everything in her power to prevent Russia moving further, and to drive her back again. In that case, this country ought to insist upon the Turks paying more attention to the Christian subjects in that country than had hitherto been the case, and fulfilling all the promises they might make. Sir Charles, in conclusion, expressed it as his opinion that, if France and England did not come forward hand in hand, and the other nations of Europe, to prevent the hostilities between Russia and Turkey, no man would see the last of that war. He also stated that he was as fond of peace as any could be, although he was not one of those who would support the non-resisting opinions, and resumed his seat amid loud and reiterated applause. The gallant admiral immediately left the meeting.

Mr. Bright next rose, and was received with reiterated cheers. After alluding to the criticism to which public speakers were in this country subjected, and referring to the effect which the last Manhester Conference had in dissipating the French invasion panic, he replied to the statements of those who said that this was a very unfortunate time to hold a peace congress. The right time, he said, never comes to oppose the errors and prejudices of a people, or to oppose writers in the public press, who pander to these errors and to these prejudices. They say that we shall embarrass the Government. Well, rumour says that the Government has been pretty well embarrassed already. They say that we shall complicate the question, but it cannot well be more complicated than it is; and hardly anybody but peace men can tell how to unravel it. But they tell us that we shall impair the harmony of opinion which there appears to be in the country, from the fact of there having been three or four insignificant meetings by which the Government is to be impelled to more active and energetic measures. Now, what is it that we really want here? We want to protest against the maintenance of great armaments in time of peace; to protest against the spirit which is not only willing for war, but eager for war; and we want to protest, with all the emphasis of which we are capable, against the mischievous policy pursued so long by this country, of interfering with the internal affairs of other countries, and thereby leading to disputes, and often to disastrous wars.

I mentioned last night what it was we were spending. Admiral Napier has, I think, left the room. [The Chairman: He was obliged to leave, to go to the country—it was not from any discourtesy to the meeting.] The Admiral said that the member for the West-Riding, who could do everything—("Hear hear," and laughter)—persuaded a feeble Government to reduce the armaments of this country to nothing. Is 15,000,000*l.* a year nothing. (Applause.) Was the money thrown away? We have it in the estimates, we pay it out of the taxes, it is appropriated by Parliament, it sustains your dockyards, pays the wages of your men, and maintains your ships. 15,000,000*l.* sterling, paid in the very year when the admiral says that my honourable friend reduced the armaments of the country to nothing? But take the sums which we spent for the past war, 28,000,000*l.* and 17,000,000*l.* for warlike preparations this year, being 45,000,000*l.* What was our exports? Even this year, far the largest year of exports we have ever known, 80,000,000*l.* Well, then, plant some one at the mouth of the Forth, Tyne, Wear, Humber, Thames, Severn, Mersey, the Clyde, and of every port and harbour in the United Kingdom, and let him take every alternate ship that leaves your rivers and your harbours with all its valuable cargo on board, and carry them off as tribute, and it will not amount to the cost that you pay every year for a war that fifty years ago was justified as much as it is attempted to justify this impending war, and for the preparations which you now make for a peace which has lasted for thirty-eight years. (Applause.) Twenty years is nothing at all in the age of a country, but in a man's life something. Every twenty years now 1,000,000,000*l.* sterling is extracted out of the industry of the hard-working people of this United Kingdom and appropriated to pay for that unnecessary and unjust war, and for the absurd and ruinous expenditure which you now incur. A thousand millions, not every twenty years, but in a hundred years, to objects of good in this country, and it would be rendered more like a paradise than anything that history records of human condition, and would make so great a change in these islands, that a man having seen them as they are now, and seeing them as they might then be, would not recognise them as the same country, nor our population as the same people. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) But what did we expend it for? Bear in mind that the admiral has defended that great war, which your newspapers, with scarcely an exception, were in favour of, and they denounced and ostracised hundreds and thousands of good men, who dared, as we dare now, to denounce the spirit which would lead this country into another ruinous war. (Applause.) Why, we went to war that France should not choose its own Government; the conclusion of the war was that no Bonaparte should sit on the throne of France, and France has all along chosen its Government from that time to this. Now we find ourselves with a Bonaparte on the throne of France, and for anything I know to the contrary, likely to remain there a good while. So far, therefore, for the calculations of our forefathers, as to the results of that enormous expenditure which they have saddled upon us. Well, then, we object to these great armaments as provoking a war spirit. Now I should like to ask what was the object of the Chobham exhibition? There were special trains at the disposal of member of Parliament to go down to Chobham one day, and to Spithead the other? What was the use of our pointing to the President of the French Republic two years ago, or to the Emperor now, and saying that he is spending his time at playing at soldiers. We are getting into the way of playing at soldiers, and camps, and fleet, and the object of this is to raise up in spirit of the people a feeling antagonistic to peace—(hear, hear)—and to render the deluded, hardworking, toiling people satisfied with the extortion of 17,000,000*l.* annually, when upon the very principles of the men who take it, it might be demonstrated that one-half of the money would be sufficient for the purpose to which it is devoted. What has been more common as an observation during this discussion upon Turkey than this—"Why are we to keep up these great fleets if we are not to use them? Why have we our enormous Mediterranean fleet lying at Besika Bay, when it might be earning glory, and adding to the warlike renown of the country?" This is just what comes from the maintenance of great fleets and armies. There grows up the *esprit de corps*—there grows a toleration for these things, a powerful opinion in their favour which leads the people to tolerate, under those excited feelings, things which, under feelings of greater temperance and moderation, they would know were hostile to their country, as they are opposed to everything which we recognise as the spirit of the Christian religion. (Applause.) Well, then, we are against intervention. Now, this question of intervention is a most important one, for this reason, that it comes before us sometimes, and asks us, by all our love of freedom, by all our respect for men struggling for their rights, to interfere in the affairs of some other country; and we find now in this country a great number of those who are calling out loudest for interference are those who, being very liberal in their politics, are bitterly hostile to the despotism and exclusiveness of the Russian Government. (Cheers.) I should like to ask this meeting what sort of intervention we are to have? There are three kinds—that for despotism, that for liberty, and you may have an intervention like that now proposed from a vague sense of danger which cannot be accurately described. What have our interventions come to be up to this time? I will come to the one that Admiral Napier spoke of by and bye.

Mr. Bright here referred to our having, not long ago, intervened in the case of Spain, which exercised the most exclusive tyranny against this country, and where, at Madrid, a dead Englishman is reckoned little better than a dead dog.

We interfered to place the Queen of Portugal on the throne, and she violated every clause of the charter which she had sworn to the people, in 1849, under the Government of Lord John Russell, and Lord Palmerston as Foreign Secretary. Well, to come to Syria, what has the admiral said about the Syrian war? He told us that the English fleet was scattered all about the Mediterranean, and that if the French fleet had come to Cherbourg and landed 50,000 men upon our coasts, all sorts of things would have befallen us. But how happened it that Admiral Napier and his friends got up the quarrel with the French? Because we interfered in the Syrian question when we had no business to interfere whatever. (Hear, hear.) The Egyptian Pasha, the vassel of the Sultan, became more powerful than the Sultan, and threatened to depose him and substitute himself as monarch upon the throne of Constantinople; and but for England he would assuredly have done it. Why did we interfere? What advantage was it to us? That you should have a feeble monarch in Constantinople when you might have had an energetic and powerful one in Mehemet Ali? We interfered, however, and quarrelled with France, although they neither declared war nor landed men upon our coast. The admiral's whole theory went upon this—that there is a total want of public morality in France; that that which no nation in Europe would dare to do would be done by the polished, civilised, and intelligent nation across the channel. Mr. Bright then adverted to the occupation of Rome by French troops in 1848, and the propping-up of the Pope upon his throne, which was done with the full concurrence of the Government of England, and said he heard Lord Palmerston, in his place in the House of Commons, go out of his way needlessly and intentionally to express a sort of approbation of the intervention of Russia in the case of Hungary. (Hear, hear.) He said it was not contrary to international law, or to the law of Europe, for Russia to send an army into Hungary to assist Austria in putting down the Hungarian insurrection. If that was not contrary to international law, would there be anything contrary to international law in Russia endeavouring to annex Turkey? But then the admiral was alarmed at a statement that if Russia got Turkey, somehow or other she would embrace all Europe, and that we would be in the embrace of the Bear, and we know very well what that was. That is all a vague and imaginary danger and he was not for going to war for imaginary dangers. It requires 100,000 French soldiers to maintain Algeria, and if a balance sheet could be shown to this meeting of what Algeria had cost France, and what France has gained from it, you would have no difficulty whatever in discovering the reason why the French finances show a deficit, and why there is a rumour that another French loan is about to be created. Mr. Bright next went on to combat the argument that if Russia got to Constantinople he would be at Egypt, and we should not be able to go the overland journey, by saying, that though he did not believe there was the slightest possibility of anything of the kind happening, yet, under any circumstances, he did not believe it at all likely that we should have our mails stopped, or persons arrested in passing through Egypt on our way to India; but at all events it must be a much more definite danger which would drive him to incur the guilt, the suffering, and the ruin of war. In reply to some who said that Russia would get to India, he said it was far more likely that we should invade Russia from India, than that Russia should invade India. Having described war to be a combination and concentration of all the horrors, atrocities, crimes, and sufferings, of which human nature upon this globe is capable, he proceeded to estimate the cost of even a rumour of war, and calculated, from the depression of funds consequent upon it and other results, that it might be put down, in the present instance, at nothing short of 200,000,000*l.* sterling. That was merely a rumour of war. That is war a long way off; it is the small cloud not bigger than a man's hand; what will it be if it comes near and becomes a fact? At least sane men ought to consider whether the case is a good one, the ground fair, the necessity clear, before they drag a nation of nearly 30,000,000 of people into a long and bloody struggle for a degraded and tottering empire which all the nations in Europe cannot long sustain. (Applause.) It would be found that a war now, in 1853, would be an infinitely more perilous and destructive one to this country than it ever was at any former period of our history (Applause.) After describing the intolerable sufferings which the working-classes endured during the seven years from 1815 to 1822, he said it was a period dangerous to the existence of Government in this country, for the whole substratum, the whole foundation of society was discontented, suffering intolerable evils, hostile in the bitterest degree to the institutions and the Government of the country. Precisely the same thing would come again. Let there come a war at any future time, when our population and interests are doubled, credit and education extended—let there ever come a time like the period between 1815 and 1822, when the whole peace of society should be upheaving with a sense of intolerable suffering, and he asked them how many years' purchase they would give even for the venerable and mild monarchy under which they had the happiness to live.

In a most impressive peroration, Mr. Bright pictured the consequences of such a disaster:—

Well, if you go into war now, you will have more banners to decorate your cathedrals and churches. Englishmen will fight now as well as ever they did, and there is ample power to back them if the country can be but sufficiently excited and deluded. You will raise up great generals. You will have another Wellington, and another Nelson too; for this country can grow men capable of all enterprises. (Cheers.) Then, there be titles, and there be pensions, and there be marble monuments to eternise the men who thus become great; but what becomes of you, and of your country, and of your children? (Loud cheers.) But there is more than this in store. That seven years to which I have referred, was a period dangerous to the existence of Government in this country, for the whole substratum, the whole foundation of society were discontented, suffering intolerable evils, and hostile, in the bitterest degree, to the institutions and the Government of the country. Precisely the same things will come again. Rely on it, that injustice of any kind, be it bad laws, or be it a bloody, unjust, and unnecessary war, of necessity creates perils to every institution in the country. (Applause.) I recollect Ebenezer Elliott, a poet of no mean order—(applause)—and no good poet is found who has not something of the prophet in his spirit—Ebenezer Elliott, in a poem in which he portrays the terrific consequences to this country if that gigantic evil, the Corn-laws, be not repealed, after addressing the different sections of the community, concludes his poem by turning his eyes to the throne itself. He says:—

"Throne established by the good,
Not unstained with patriot blood,
Not unwatched by patriot fears,
Not unwept by patriot tears,
What shall bread-tax do for thee,
Venerable monarchy?
Dreams of evil spare my sight,
Let that horror rest in night."

(Cheers.) And, if the Corn-laws had continued, if it had been impossible, by peaceful agitation, to abolish them, the monarchy itself would not have survived the ruin and disaster that they must have wrought. And if you go into a war now, with a doubled population, with extended credit, and a wider extension of partial education among the people, let there ever come a time like the period between 1815 and 1822, when the whole basis of society is upheaving with a sense of intolerable suffering, I ask you, how many years' purchase would you give even for the venerable and mild monarchy under which you have the happiness to live? (Applause.) I confess that when I think of the tremendous perils to which unthinking men—men who do not intend to fight themselves—are willing to drag and to hurry this country into, I am amazed how they can trifle with interests so vast, and consequences so much beyond their calculation. But speaking here in Edinburgh to such an audience—an audience probably for its numbers as intelligent and as influential as ever was assembled within the walls of any hall in this kingdom—I think I might put before your attention higher considerations than those of property, and of the interests of the institutions of your country. I might remind you of duties more solemn, and of obligations more imperative. You profess to be a Christian nation. You make it your boast even—though boasting is somewhat out of place in such questions—you make it your boast that you are a Protestant people, and that you draw your elements of doctrine and practice as from a well pure and undefiled, from the lively oracles of God, and from the direct revelation of the Omnipotent.

You have even conceived the magnificent project of illuminating the whole earth, even to its remotest and darkest recesses, by the dissemination of the volume of the New Testament, in whose every page are written for ever the words of peace. (Subdued cheers.) Within the the limits of this land alone, on every Sabbath, 20,000, aye, far more than 20,000, temples are thrown open, in which devout men and women assemble that they may worship him who is the "Prince of Peace." (Prolonged murmurs of applause.) Is this a reality, or is your Christianity a romance, is your profession a dream? No, I am sure that your Christianity is not a romance, and I am equally sure that your profession is not a dream. It is because I believe this that I appeal to you with confidence, and that I have hope and faith in the future. I believe that we shall see, and at no very distant time, our principles spreading much more widely amongst the people; that we shall find a sense of justice growing up in a soil which hitherto we deemed unfruitful; and that which will be better than all—the Churches of the United Kingdom—the Churches of Britain awaking, as it were, from their slumbers, and girding up their loins to the more glorious work of not only accepting the truth of the prophecy and fully believing it, but labouring for its fulfilment, that there shall come a time—a blessed time—a time which shall last for ever—when "nation shall not lift up the sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." (Mr. Bright concluded amidst deafning and long-continued cheers.)

The resolutions of the conference were then put to the meeting collectively, and carried by an overwhelming majority, only about half-a-dozen hands having been held up against them.

On the motion of Mr. Cobden, three cheers were given to the Lord Provost for presiding; three were also proposed, and warmly responded to, for Messrs. Cobden and Bright; and three were proposed for Sir Charles Napier, though but partially taken up.

The meeting then broke up.

SOIREE.

On Friday evening, the friends of peace once more assembled in the Music Hall, to the number of 500 or 600, for a *soirée* and promenade. The hall was very tastefully decorated, and there was an abundant supply of refreshments, with occasional performances of the organ. Of course a considerable proportion of the company consisted of ladies in evening dress, and their presence lent a great charm and variety to the scene, and favourably impressed the strangers with the attractions and grace of the fair citizens of Modern Athens. The garb of the Society of Friends frequently met the view, and recalled the fact that Quakers, after all, form the backbone of the peace movement. After about two hours spent in promenading, free intercourse, and mutual congratulations, Mr. Cobden, in obedience to a call from the company, came forward, and said, that as his own powers were somewhat exhausted he would, instead of making a speech himself, read an extract from an address delivered by a Cabinet Minister, upon that subject which had brought the conference together:—

"Let me venture to say this (said Mr. Gladstone at Manchester), that the true, the truest measure of the real greatness of a people lies in its power of self-command and self-restraint. That self-command and self-restraint, whether in nations or individuals, are always liable to be mistaken for, and are also certain to be charged as, indifference, as feebleness, or as cowardice. We know, I trust, the difference—we know that that dignified patience, and that sense of duty as men and as Christians, which make us value peace, do not mean a want of readiness to vindicate, when the time comes, the honour of this country. (Hear, hear.) What do we mean when we speak of a general war? There is a certain glare of glory about the operations of war which appeals to some of the elements of human nature, and makes us too little mindful of the fearful accompaniments which it entails. (Hear, hear.) When we speak of general war, we don't mean real progress in the road of freedom, the real moral and social advancement of man, achieved by force. This may be the intention, but how rarely is it the result of general war. (Hear, hear.) We mean this, that the face of nature is stained with human gore; we mean that bread is taken out of the mouth of the people; we mean that taxation is increased and industry diminished; we know that it means that burdens unreasonable and untold are entailed on late posterity; we know that it means that demoralisation is let loose, that families are broken up, that lusts become unbridled in every country to which that war is extended. (Applause.) And now, if that be a true description, then it is also true that it is the absolute duty of a Government to exercise for themselves that self-command which they recommend to others, and to labour to the very utmost for the adoption of any and every available expedient for averting such a frighful scourge. (Applause.) Gentlemen, I am certain—I could have anticipated it before, but at this moment I have no doubt, after the manifestation you have given—that these are the sentiments which animate the peaceful community of Great Britain. (Cheers.) Those who are associated together in the works of industry and enterprise, those who, as practical men, come into close relation and close observation with the working of a public policy, those who know the dangers we are encountering—know the difficulties we have to meet, and by their confidence we shall be supported." (Hear, hear.)

These sentiments (said Mr. Cobden) might have been delivered by any member of this Conference, and it must be gratifying to them to find that a Cabinet Minister and a gentleman so highly influential in the Cabinet as Mr. Gladstone from his great talents must be, to hear such a man adopting their sentiments and throwing his weight into the Cabinet in favour of peace. Mr. Cobden then expressed his regret that instead of the people being before the Government on this question they should be in the rear, and a Government should require to restrain the people from plunging into war. It might at some future time transpire that these peace demonstrations had been in those Cabinet meetings, which had been held so often within these two or three days, the strength and support of that party which was in favour of peace—if there were indeed any division of opinion in the Cabinet on that subject. Depend upon it their meetings had not been in vain. They would exert a powerful influence in England, and in Edinburgh and Scotland they had sown seeds which in future years would ripen into fruit. He had attended many meetings in all parts of the country, and on various subjects, but he had never seen attention so steady, and enthusiasm so rational, as he had witnessed during the last two days. He then explained that, but for the Eastern question, he should, last session, have proposed a motion respecting a mutual reduction of armaments.

After a few minutes, in obedience to a general call, Mr. Bright came forward and made a few observations; drawing a lesson of encouragement from the proceedings of the Anti-Corn-Law-League. He was delighted that so many ladies had attended these meetings. That was to his mind an encouraging feature, because none could calculate the influence exercised over families and others, and he believed ladies almost always influence for good. He hoped they had established among themselves a sort of freemasonry, exhorting and stimulating each other in the work, and certain at all times where they could find those with whom they might be able to act.

Mr. Vincent also said a few words, after which the Lord Provost moved a vote of thanks to the members of Parliament who had honoured the conference by their presence, which was seconded by the Rev. J. Burnet; and after a short reply by Mr. Hindley, M.P., the company began to retire, highly delighted with their interesting, instructive, and novel entertainment.

HENRY DRUMMOND, M.P., ON THE PEACE QUESTION.

(Done into Metre by One of the Worthless Classes.)

"All people want peace," when they've got their own way—
So leave them alone, if you value fair play:
If Cain murdered Abel, Humanity still
Must be fearfully bad, let men do what they will;
And as "*miracles*" only can alter it, cease
Your attempts at converting the world *by degrees*.

Though poor human nature was spoiled by the Fall—
I can't think the curse has extended to *all*:
That our Army and Navy are "virtuous," "kind,"
"Self-devoted," and to their own interests blind,
"Beyond measure better" than all other men,
Is as clear—as the fact that the Sword beats the Pen!

Who cares to see statues of peace-loving folk?
Watt and Arkwright were ninnies, and Peel a sad joke,—
Give us men who have reaped bloody harvests for hire,
Whose mission was murder, whose argument fire—
"A broad brim in bronze" *is* a whimsical start;
A cocked hat and bobtail, the climax of Art!

That "Peace" is but "Mammon," you'll own to be true,
"The base-t and meanest" of Milton's "damned crew,"
To whom Mars and Moloch were angels of light—
Yet you can turn from them and worship a fright!
Oh, fie Mr. Richard! for shame, Mr. Bright!

You see, I *assume* nothing here; not at all;
I can prove every word, Sir—by powder and ball;*
For though your drab-demons *give* money, I know,
To all that aids progress, or mitigates woe,
'Tis plain as a pikestaff, though you think it gammon—
They could not first *get* it without serving Mammon.

Yet I wish you all well; for to tell you my mind,
I've a notion that peace must be good for mankind,
And I long soon to see her asserting the Throne,—
But then she must come *in a way of my own*.
You may pack off to Moscow, while I, Sir, will pray,
In the spirit of love, that you mayn't get away,
But there to the knout or the scaffold be summoned,
To think, when too late, of

Your friend,
HENRY DRUMMOND.

* Grape-shot (says Mr. Drummond) is the only argument with which revolutionists—*i.e.*, reformers—ought to be treated.

Literature.

Theism, Atheism, and the Popular Theology. By THEODORE PARKER. Chapman's Quarterly Series, No. 1.

A History of the Hebrew Monarchy, from the Administration of Samuel to the Babylonish Captivity.. By FRANCIS WILLIAM NEWMAN. Second Edition. Chapman's Quarterly Series, No. 2. London: John Chapman, 142, Strand.

IN the manner of the "Foreign Theological Library," and other serial issues of Volumes by Subscription, Mr. Chapman has commenced a new undertaking with the title of the "Quarterly Series," to consist of "works by learned and profound thinkers, embracing the subjects of Theology, Philosophy, Biblical Criticism, and the History of Opinion." The volumes before us form the first issue of this series; and may be supposed to prefigure its character, especially if regarded in connexion with the announcement that the works already in preparation are, "Feuerbach's Essence of Christianity"—"Ewald's Introduction to the History of the People of Israel"—"A Sketch of the Rise and Progress of Christianity," by Mr. Mackay—and, we believe, Miss Martineau's translations from the *Philosophie Positive* of Auguste Comte. It will not be unjust, we imagine, to say that it is to be a library of works marked by anti-supranaturalism in theology, and anti-christianism in religion.

The writings of Theodore Parker are, we are persuaded, well known by all those of our readers to whom we have to speak of such a publication as Mr. Chapman here inaugurates. To them we need not dilate on his general characteristics or his leading principles. In all his works the same purposes, the same prominent views, and even the same specific thoughts, are to be found, only varied wonderfully in form and expression; and similarly, the remarkable excellences of style, and the serious defects in taste, which belong to one, mark all the rest. We confess that we are not unwilling readers of Theodore Parker. He has a boldness and vigour of thought, a rich imaginativeness, a music of speech, which ranges from the lofty and the grand to the most simply touching, or quietly descriptive—and yet more, a depth and fearlessness of conviction, a broad sympathy with humanity, a scorn of hypocrisies, and a hate of sin, which always occasion us some sense of profit as well as delight. Yet, ever is the delight dashed by his frequent coarseness and violent exaggeration; even as the profit is almost utterly destroyed by the feeling of the terrible untruthfulness of his principles and doctrines, and the consciousness that he does injustice—not wholly unknown to himself, we fear—to all the theologies and practical religious life of the Churches, by caricature and misrepresentation of the extremest sort. Even when we summon our *charity* to sustain our respect for individual freedom of opinion, we find it difficult to regard Mr. Parker as really any other than a calumniator of Christianity, a satirist of Christendom, a libeller of "the God and Father of *our* Lord Jesus Christ." On his own theory of Religion, he should treat the religion that *is* amongst us with reverence and pity at least, where now he is bitter and scornful: and on his own theory of the nature of Error, he should restrain somewhat the language which, in dealing with what *he* deems error, often comes near to invective and sarcasm of no holy quality or gracious power at all.

It will not be supposed that we mean to make a wholesale attack on Mr. Parker; and we would not omit to acknowledge his honesty and manliness, and the purity and goodness of heart in which his whole nature seems to be steeped. To inexperienced thinkers, and to inquirers after religious truth, we could never have a hand in giving or recommending his books; but to real thinkers and to the ministers of the Christian Gospel we emphatically say—Read them, and reflect on them; you will not be able to do so without pain,—but there are glorious bursts of eloquence—flashings of true genius—fresh, breezy sentiments—and thoughts that echo the yearnings and breathe the aspirations of no inconsiderable number in this age,—which will be quickening to you, and will reveal to you some secrets of *power*, and may instruct you not a little as to the incipient tendencies and peculiar wants of your generation, and negatively, if not positively, as to the errors you have to correct and the duties you are called to fulfil.

This volume on "Theism, Atheism, and the Popular Theology," treats of each as a Theory of the Universe, and as a Principle of Ethics. To it, as a whole, our strictures are intended to apply. We could quote passages on Atheism, which might ring throughout the world with the assenting voices of all Christians. Its falsity to the soul, its utter *un*reason, and its hidden horrors, are set forth most eloquently, and most powerfully. But, then, the "Popular Theology" is depicted as *worse* than Atheism; and with images no less impressive, and words no less eloquent, the preference is awarded to Atheism, even at the tomb, and in expectation of immortality! Further, what Mr. Parker's "*Theism*" is, we can by no means clearly discover,—except that he calls his God "the *Mother* of us all," and again and again, the "*Eternal Mother;*" while much that he says of God as "perfect Cause and perfect Providence" is unexceptionable, and is the confidence of the heart and creed of the intellect with multitudes to whom Mr. Parker attributes doctrines respecting God, that are horrible indeed, but happily *unknown* both in theology and life. And while our complaint of Mr. Parker's practice of caricature has been stirred by the lectures on the "Popular Theology," in describing which he masses together the most heterogeneous and contradictory theories, we would add, that the very travesty and satire help to reveal the hollowness and remoteness from life, the defects and incongruities, which undoubtedly belong to at least portions of the current theology of the day. The lectures, however, on which we would fix the attention of those who esteem it a duty to

search such a book, are those on "The Economy of Pain and Misery under the Universal Providence," which contain many precious thoughts and exquisite beauties. There are also two sermons entitled "Some Account of my Ministry," and "Of the Position and Duty of a Minister," which those interested in Mr. Parker's life and labours will be glad to see.—In a portrait prefixed to the volume, we have a fine massive head, and expressive eye, but features coarse. Power, passion, resolution, and benevolence, seem to us to sit upon this *good* head and face.

It is now six years since the first publication of Mr. Newman's "History of the Hebrew Monarchy;" and in that time it has become so notorious, and has been so much reviewed and re-reviewed, that we hold ourselves discharged alike from the necessity of describing its character and the duty of criticising it. This second edition has a new Preface, in which the author complains that his "reviewers have given him scarcely any help" to the improvement of the work; for, "with one exception, all the reviews he has seen proceed from principles of criticism with which he has nothing in common." He also briefly replies to his critics in the *North British* and *British Quarterly* Reviews; and alleges that his views, arguments, and sentiments have been generally misrepresented and slandered by reviewers. In answer to a question, which he says he has been "asked triumphantly"—Why he does not refute Hengstenberg?—he simply states, that "he *tried* to read Hengstenberg, having bought his volumes for the purpose, and found him utterly unsatisfactory on every point of practical interest." We need only add, that this cool and complacent way of disposing of a writer whose learning is universally admitted to be most extensive and profound, as his intellect is surprisingly clear and powerful,—and who has himself passed from the stand-point of Mr. Newman to that he at present occupies,—will not commend Mr. Newman to the respect of scholars in general, nor silence his adverse critics, nor gain the confidence of common-sense readers of his volume. Can questions of scholarship, of historical criticism, and of moral argument, be settled thus?—with a shrug and a word, "I *tried* the other side, and it wouldn't do!" And then Mr. Newman, with a frown at opponents, protests that he has "no respect for any man's love of truth" who attempts "to *evade* meeting this controversy!" and says, "he tries to lay before the reader reasons from which he *may judge for himself*," and that "the *only authorities* lie in a small compass, and *are in his* (the reader's) *hands!*" This is queer enough; but *too* transparent to be an *intentional* evasion and double shuffle.

It is due to Mr. Newman to say, that he has, in this Preface, concisely expressed his view of Inspiration. He rejects, first, that view which regards it as "an extraordinary influence, peculiar to a few persons, such as prophets and apostles;" and secondly, that which "teaches that Inspiration and Genius are two names for one thing, and perhaps goes so far as to make Inspiration independent of moral effort," which view, however, he says, "is common in the Old Testament;"—and he holds that "it is an Ordinary influence of the Divine Spirit on the hearts of men, which quickens and strengthens their moral and spiritual powers, and is accessible to all (in a certain stage of development) in some some proportion to their own faithfulness." He admits that this conception is held by Christians, as a doctrine of "spiritual influence," but by them is distinguished from Inspiration, which they conceive according to the first view he has named and rejected. He adds, "I have *never* used the word Inspiration concerning Genius."

As for the book itself, it has often assisted our apprehension of particular points of Hebrew history, and has suggested new and valuable points of view, although we totally differ from its general principles and results.

Wanderings in Spain. By THEOPHILE GAUTIER. With numerous Engravings. London: Ingram, Cooke, and Co., Strand.

THE date of these "Wanderings" is some fourteen years ago; the date of the publication of the French original of the narrative of them, we know not. We are not told that this is a translation, but the contents, as well as his name, show the author to be a Frenchman, and so we jump to the conclusion that the book is a version of some French publication. We may add, that it is French in everything,—in notions, sentiments, and manners. A very amusing book it is, too; not much to be depended on for the accuracy of its information, or the particular truthfulness of its incidents; but having a *general truth* to the aspect of Spain and the character and customs of the people, which may be vindicated by appeal to more sober travellers, and more reliable authorities. There is great vivacity in M. Gautier's talk about Spain and the Spaniards; very brilliantly does he sometimes picture to you the most striking scenes and celebrated places; and quite full of life are his sketches of society and manners. But, his *women!*—ah, there you have M. Gautier's best touches, and most expressive delineations! Yet so sensuous, so earthly, so deficient in true delicacy, that you dislike his portraiture almost more than you admire its cleverness and skill. If, however, we could extract the most powerful piece of writing in the volume, we should select the account of a Bull-fight, which M. Gautier seems to have enjoyed immensely, and describes in the most vivid manner—so that one really gets interested and excited over its brutalities and its dangerous daring.

Though Spain is the theme, English people, who swarm everywhere ("save in *London*," says this Frenchman, "where there are only Italians and Poles"), serve the author as objects for a little ridicule and sarcasm; and we choose, partly from sympathy with him, to extract a few paragraphs, not wanting in a certain sort of spice:—

"I saw nothing of Spanish pride; nothing is so deceptive as the reputation bestowed on individuals and nations. On the contrary, I found them exceedingly simple-minded and good-natured; Spain is the true country of equality, if not in words at least in deeds. The poorest beggar lights his *papelito* at the *puro* of a powerful nobleman, who allows him to do so, without the slightest affectation of condescension; a marchioness will step, with a smile, over the bodies of the ragged vagabonds who are slumbering across her threshold, and, when travelling, will not make a face if compelled to drink out of the same glass with the *mayoral*, the *zagal*, and the *escopetero* of the diligence. Foreigners find great difficulty in accustoming themselves to this familiarity, especially the *English*, who have their letters brought upon salvers, and take them with tongs! An Englishman travelling from Seville to Jeres, told his *calesero* to go and get his dinner in the kitchen. The calesero, who, in his own mind, thought he was honouring a heretic very highly by sitting down at the same table with him, did not make the slightest remark, and concealed his rage as carefully as the villain in a melodrama; but about three or four leagues from Jeres, in the midst of a frightful desert, full of quagmires and bushes, he threw the Englishman very neatly out of the vehicle, shouting to him as he whipped on his horse: 'My lord, you did not think me worthy of sitting at your table, and I, Don Jose Balbino Bustamente y Orozco, do not think you good enough to sit on the seat in my calesin. Good evening!'"

And again, of landing at Gibraltar, the author says:—

"The effect produced by the appearance of the town is the strangest it is possible for us to conceive. By taking one step, you have your five hundred leagues, which is rather more than Tom Thumb did in his famous boots. Just now you were in Andalusia, at the next moment you are in *England*. From the Moorish towns of Granada and Murcia, you suddenly alight at Ramsgate; you see brick-houses with their areas, their low doors, and their English windows, exactly like those at Twickenham and Richmond. If you go a little further, you will perceive cottages with their painted railings and gates. The public walks are planted with ash and birch trees, with elms and the green vegetation of the north, so different from those small plates of varnished metal which pass for foliage in southern climates. Englishmen have so strong an individuality, that they are everywhere the same, and I really cannot understand why they travel, for they carry all their customs with them, and bear their houses on their backs exactly like snails. Wherever an Englishman may be, he lives precisely as he would do in London; he must have his tea, his rump-steaks, his rhubarb pies, his porter and his sherry, if he is well; and his calomel, if he is ill. By means of the innumerable packages he lugs about with him, the Englishman always enjoys his *home* and his comforts, which are necessary to his existence. How many objects do our insular neighbours require in order to live—how much trouble do they give themselves to feel at their ease! and how much do I prefer to all this complicated array, Spanish abstemiousness and privation!"

Congregational Church Music: a Book for the Service of Song in the House of the Lord. With a Preface by Rev. T. BINNEY. Part I. General Psalmody.

Anthem and Two Sanctuses: Re-arranged and Revised for Congregational Use.

Hymns and Verses Metrically Arranged for Psalmody Classes. Selected by the Compilers of "Congregational Church Music."

London: Ward and Co., Paternoster-row.

THE first of these publications is the result of much care and labour, which have been bestowed by gentlemen connected with the Weigh-house Chapel, London, on the improvement of "Song in the House of the Lord." In the progress of their work they became acquainted with Mr. Lowell Mason, of Boston, U.S., whose knowledge and ability have rendered him a valuable coadjutor, and to whom this book owes many good arrangements, and several beautiful melodies. The tunes are 168 in number; they are selected for their simplicity, plainness, distinctive character, and adaptation to use with a variety of hymns. They have been arranged by such eminent musicians as Goss, Turle, Hornsey, and Novello, as well as by Mr. Mason and others. They are indexed so as to indicate the character of each melody, as bold or joyous, medium, or plaintive. Without being enthusiastic, or saying that we are quite satisfied, we can highly praise the judgment displayed in selection, and the beauty of the simple harmonies; in both respects excellently adapting the book to congregational use. There are two tunes graciously contributed by H.R.H. Prince Albert, in reply to an application as to his being the author of one already in print. A novel feature is the introduction of "Reciting" and "Unison" Tunes; the former for use in declaiming hymns *of* a very stirring and jubilant character; the latter for the exceedingly pleasing exercise of singing in unison, as we specially delight to hear a large congregation sing "*after* sermon." The preface by Mr. Binney traces the connexion of the Weigh-house with the publication and improvement of Psalmody from the year 1730; and adds some appropriate remarks on "the duty of public praise." We are glad, also, to see that the Rev. John Curwen, who has done so much, personally and by his publications, for the "service of song," is recorded to have "given many valuable hints, and a willing and generous recognition [to the compilers] as fellow-labourers."—We are sure that our Dissenting congregations will appreciate this book, and, save where the "Union Tune Book" or something like it is the fashion, will deem it excellent for *all* that it contains: perhaps, however, desiring that it had possessed more variety, and that some glorious compositions to which the "Psalmist" and other collections have now accustomed us, were to be found in it.

The "Anthem," &c., is a temporary publication of pieces in constant use at the Weigh-house, in anticipation of the Second Part of the "Church Music."—The "Hymns," &c., are arranged according to *metre* and *style*, for convenient use in singing-classes.

Notes, Explanatory and Practical on the Book of Daniel. By the Rev. ALBERT BARNES. Two Vols. London: G. Routledge and Co., Farringdon-street.

IT is stated by Mr. Barnes, in the Preface to these volumes, that the Notes they contain were completed nearly four years since, and intended to appear simultaneously with his work on the Revelation of John; but circumstances then and since have necessarily delayed the publication. Such, however, is their connexion, on the theory of interpretation adopted by the author, that they may be regarded, as he says, "as two parts of one work." Mr. Barnes has taken unusual pains in the preparation of these elaborate volumes: very extensive reading, careful research, anxious thinking, and heavy literary labour, must have gone to their production. He has made free use of the labours of his predecessors, especially English and German writers of recent times, of both orthodox and rationalistic schools. He has appropriated the substance of whatever in their works commended itself to his judgment and suited his purpose; and has frequently cited them as his authorities or quoted them directly in considerable passages. At the same time, he has given scope to his own individuality, in the methods of his investigation, and the independence of his conclusions. We imagine we should not be wholly at one with Mr. Barnes as to the principles of prophetical interpretation; but his work contains so large an amount of curious information, pertinent illustration, and judicious moral commentary, that it must prove acceptable even to those who are least able to accept its results as a whole. It has the faults of prolixity and sermonizing, which too much belong to all the author's publications; and the Introduction, by adjourning certain points of the inquiry until they arise in the exposition itself, loses something in coherence, and seems weak in places. It is a very small criticism, but not unnecessary, to object to the presentation to the eye, in rude wood-cuts, of figures of the symbolical creatures mentioned by the prophet; by which means degradation is inflicted on the series of conceptions he intended to suggest, and the ridiculous is reached rather than the sublime.

Such, after all abatements, is the general character of the work, and so conscientious its execution, that had Mr. Barnes done no more for Scripture interpretation than this, he would deserve the respect and gratitude of Christian students, particularly those who are unable to attempt learned and profound studies of the sacred volume; and were this his only commentary it would attract general attention, perhaps more than it now will, as one among many books from the same hand. There are but few helps, however, to the study of Daniel, accessible to English readers, so that we should suppose Mr. Barnes meets a want many have felt, and renders a service that many have desired.

Facts and Facetiæ.

An enterprising Hampshire journalist, we are informed by a teasing rival, exhibited on his window the "telegraphic intelligence" that "British and French fleets had just captured the Dardanelles and sent them prisoners to Malta."

It has been suggested (by the *Gateshead Observer*)

that when the hippopotamus at the *Jardin des Plantes* swallowed the lady's lapdog, he did it under the impression that that was the way to take a dose of bark!

"What's the matter there, Cora? don't your shoes fit?" "No, papa, they don't fit me at all," said she. And then she enumerated all the faults of the shoes in set terms, and reached the climax thus:—"Why, they don't even squeak when I walk out."

We regret that a professional wit, generally up "to the times," should have given renewed life to a joke certainly as old as Russophobia:—Woman: A three farden candle, if you please. Chandler: They're a penny a piece! Woman: Why, how's that? Chandler: It's on account of the Russian war. Woman: What, you don't mean to tell me they're fighting by candle-light! —*Diogenes.*

M. Felicien David, the well-known composer, inherited, some time ago, an old violoncello, with other things, left by a friend. He paid no attention to it, and it became covered with dust. A few days ago, Bianchi, the musical instrument-maker, paid him a visit, and discovered the violoncello. On examining it he cried, "You have there a marvellous instrument!" He took it home to repair, and then found that it bears the signature of Andrew Guarnarius. "M. David has already," says the *Siècle*, "refused 20,000*f.* for it."

The authorities of the prison at Bath advertised lately as follows:—"Wanted, a respectable man to act as turnkey in a county prison. One who understands music, can play the organ, and sing bass, would be preferred."

The Turk, despite his look, is a humorous animal. The word "Besika" means "cradle" in Turkish. The Emperor of Russia, in a late caricature, is represented rocking the two fleets in their cradle, whilst the British Queen is looking on in admiration.

The Lord Mayor said at Guildhall the other day, that, at the end of his Mayoralty he would have to declare that the most unmanageable people with whom his experience as chief magistrate had made him acquainted were those who belonged to the trade and mystery of the thimble, notwithstanding the quiet and unobtrusive nature of their general employment [laughter]. The moment a set of disturbers of the peace were brought before him he guessed that the majority were tailors, and he was never yet mistaken in the opinion [great laughter].

Just in time to check the moustache movement comes a musical shaving machine! A North Shields mechanic is the author of this invention, which is described as not unlike an old-fashioned arm-chair. The razor blades are fixed longitudinarily on cylinders, with fine camel-hair brushes between; for you are lathered and shaved at one and the same time—the lather being supplied from the interior of the cylinders, which are hollow. The machine is put in motion by the weight of the patient, the seat gradually giving way beneath, and sinking with him till he reaches the ground, when the operation is completed. A musical box, capable of performing a great variety of airs, is appended to the machine, and can be attached or detached at pleasure, so that you may be shaved to any tune you please! A correspondent of the *Gateshead Observer* says:—"When we first inspected the 'Shavong,' we confess we were, with others, somewhat apprehensive of our jugular, and insisted on subjecting a stalwart cot to the operation, by way of trial; just as, when some doubts were expressed of the stability of the Manchester theatre, an old lady proposed to 'try it with operatives.' We were perfectly astounded at the result [and so, no doubt, was the cat—ED. *G. O.*], for she emerged from the apparatus *without the least vestige of hair from the shoulder blade upwards!*"

The conductor of *Household Words* has discovered, in Broad-street, Bloomsbury, a zoological curiosity, brought from Brazil by some poor Germans, the only survivor of four, and likely to create no less excitement than the hippopotamus:—"On opening the shop door we found ourselves, in proper showman fashion, shut from the sight of the inner mystery by a check curtain. Passing that we came into the shop, which was divided by a little wooden barrier into a small space for spectators, and a small space for the proprietors of the animal and for the animal himself, whose den was a deal box standing on its sides, with a small lair of straw inside, and the stuffed anteater on the top of it. On the straw was a rough grey hair mat, of a circular form, or a heap of hair, which presently unrolled itself into the form of a magnificent tail, from under which the long nose of the living ant-bear was aimed at us like a musket. Then the whole curiosity came out to eat an egg, which it heard cracked against the wall. . . . . It does that very cleverly. Like most of the tame ant-bears in Brazil, this one in Bloomsbury, though but an infant, eats fifty in a day, with a little milk, and meat chopped finely or in soup. It needs not only food but air. It would do best, said the German, if it had some green to run upon. The air of a small room in Holborn or in Oxford-street, to which last thoroughfare the show entertained a notion of removing, adds one more peril to the chance of maintaining alive this little stranger. The peril, however, is not very likely to be of long duration. Such a prize as an ant-bear could not hide itself a day in London from the eye of the ever active secretary of the gardens in Regent's Park. He was already in treaty with the Germans, and had offered them, if they went with their animal to the Zoological Gardens, the weekly payment of quite a royal pension during its life.

BIRTHS.

October 12, the wife of the Rev. W. LEASK, Kennington, of a son.

October 13, the wife of the Rev. S. DUSON, Uppermill, Saddleworth, of a son.

October 13, at Luton, the wife of Mr. SAMUEL GRUNDY, of a daughter.

October 13, at Chester-place, Ashton-under-Lyne, the wife of the Rev. W. THOMAS, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

October 4, at the Independent Chapel, Crick, by the Rev. J. T. Brown, of Northampton, brother of the bride, Mr. HAYNES, of Oakham, to ELIZABETH, second daughter of Mr. J. BROWN, of Stoke-cottage, Buckinghamshire.

October 6, at the Upper Meeting, Saffron Walden, Essex, by the Rev. W. A. Gillson, Mr. THOMAS BARNARD, of Wenden, to Miss HANNAH ELISABETH PERRY, of Great Chesterford.

October 10, at the Independent Chapel, Woburn, Beds, by the Rev. J. Andrews, Mr. JOSEPH OMAUT, of Clapham-rise, to Miss ELISABETH COTTON, of Woburn.

October 11, at West Clayton-street Chapel, Newcastle-on-Tyne, by the Rev. A. Howson, the Rev. A. CLARE, of Stockport, to MARY ANN, eldest daughter of the late T. GLADSTONE, Esq., of Gateshead.

October 11, by the Rev. W. Brock, of Bloomsbury Chapel, London, WILLIAM RIDER, Esq., of Newman-street, to SERENA LOUISA, youngest daughter of the late Rev. J. HEMMING, M.A., of Kimbolton, Huntingdonshire.

October 12, at the Congregational Church, Barnet, Middlesex, by the Rev. Chisman Beadle, Mr. JOHN EDLINGTON, of Seacombe, Liverpool, to FANNY, daughter of the late Mr. WM. FOSTER, of Barnet.

DEATHS.

May 13, by the upsetting of a boat, off Auckland, New Zealand, G. B. W. JACKSON, Esq., son of Dr. Jackson, of Kew; and, by the same melancholy accident, his brother-in-law, Assistant Staff-Surgeon MATTHEW, third son of the late T. P. Matthew, Esq., of the War Office.

October 6, at 12, Tarbert-street, Glasgow, aged 74 years, JEAN MARSHALL, widow of the late Mr. P. H. MASSIE, and mother of the Rev. Dr. Massie, of London, and Rev. Robert Massie, of Atherstone, Warwickshire.

October 9, at Hitchen, Herts, Mrs. GALLAGHER, in her 88th year, much respected and deeply regretted by a numerous circle of friends, and for more than sixty years connected with the Congregational Church at Hitchen. Her end was peace.

October 10, at 142, Piccadilly, the Hon. ELIZABETH SUSAN WILLOUGHBY, second daughter of Lord Willoughby de Eresby, in her 43rd year.

October 10, at Brighton, HENRIETTA ELIZABETH, the beloved wife of JAMES WILLIAM FARRER, Esq., one of the retired Masters in Chancery.

October 13, aged 39 years, of typhus fever, LOUISA, the beloved wife of Mr. W. G. COUSINS, coach-builder, Abingdon, leaving nine young children to mourn their loss.

October 15, at 54, Harley-street, after a long illness, GEORGE LEAR CURTIS, Esq., in the 49th year of his age, and second son of the late Sir William Curtis, Bart.

October 15, at Cirencester, Gloucestershire, honoured and loved by a large circle of friends, the Rev. DANIEL WHITE, aged 73, and in the 49th year of his pastorate over the Baptist Church in that town.

Oct. 17, at Downham-road, Lower-road, Islington, Mr. EDWARD HELBY, accountant, of cholera (twelve hours).

A few spirited persons, who have for some time been developing the mineral resources of Cumberland, have just concluded a purchase of the waste-lands within the manor and forest of Ennerdale, in area upwards of thirty miles, from the Earl of Lonsdale, for a term of twenty-one years, at one-fifteenth royalty. The lodes are said to consist of copper, silver, lead, and plumbago. Several of them have been already laid open in the mountains for public inspection.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

A rumour was current in the City yesterday, that a telegraphic despatch had been received from Vienna, stating that the Emperor of Russia has made the declaration of war by Turkey a fresh pretext for persisting in his aggression. This rumour caused a further depression in the Funds.

Consols for money, which left off on Saturday at 92 to ½, were first quoted 91⅞ to ¾, with a very unsettled market, and, though they afterwards advanced to 91¾, the final quotation was 91⅞ to ¾ for both money and account. Bank Stock left off at 218 to 220; Reduced, 90⅞ to ⅞; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 92⅝ to ¾; Long Annuities, 5⅛ to 5-16; India Stock, 245 to 248; India Bonds, 5s. dis. to 4s. premium; and Exchequer-bills, 4s. to 8s. premium.

To-day the tending is still downward. Three per Cent. Consols for Money, 91⅛ 91¼; for Account, 10th Nov., 91⅛ 91⅛. Reduced have been dealt in at from 90⅝ 90¾, but have fallen to 90⅛ 90⅜. New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., after bargains at 92⅛ 92⅜, are now not higher than 92⅛ 92⅛; South Sea New Annuities and Three per Cents. of 1751, changed hands at 100⅛. Bank Stock, 216 218. Exchequer Bills 4s. to 8s. prem. India Bonds, 5s. dis.

In the Foreign Department, South American Stocks were those chiefly dealt in, and at improved prices. Equador, 5⅛ to 5⅜. Chilian Six per Cents., 100⅜. Mexican, 24. Buenos Ayres, 56. Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 96⅛.

There has been a steady advance in the Share Market, the surplus capital seeking investment leading to purchases on the part of the public, which has served to sustain prices. South Easterns have rallied to 58¼. Norfolks have improved to 49. North Westerns have been dealt in at 102⅝ 103. Great Westerns at 80⅛. Caledonians at 49⅛ 49⅜. Chester and Holyhead, 10s. higher Namur and Liege and Northern of France were about 5s. higher. Weisbaden (£2 paid), sold at 1 dis.

Brazilian Imperial Mine shares were sought after at 4⅛ to 4⅛; Californian Mines at former prices. Australian Bank shares were firmer; Union of Australia about £2 higher; South Australia, 39⅛; Australasia steady at 70; Chartered of Australia 7s. 6d. higher. Australian Agricultural Company and Peel River have maintained the late advance. Crystal Palace shares were ¼ prem.; and British American Land shares 55 ex div.

Railway Shares were firmly supported, the opening prices being but a shade weaker than those at the close of business last night.

The following are the opening prices this morning of the principal shares, which are quoted per share, except in the cases of the Great Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, London and North Western, and Midland, which are quoted per cent.:—Aberdeen, 9⅜ 10⅛; Caledonian, 24⅛ 24⅜; Eastern Counties, 11⅝ 12; Great Northern, 18⅛ 18⅜; Great Western, 79⅜ 80⅛; London and Blackwall, 7⅛ 7⅜; London and Brighton, 46⅛ 47⅛; London and North Western, 102 102⅛; London and South Western, 37 38; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln, 19 20; Midland, 58⅛ 58⅜; North British, 6⅛ 6⅜; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 18⅛ 18⅜; South Eastern, 17⅛ 17⅜; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 15⅛ 15⅜; York and North Midland, 22⅛ 22⅜; Northern of France, 35 35⅛; Paris and Lyons, 15⅛ 16⅛; Paris and Strasbourg, 35⅛ 36⅛.

The Bombay papers report a very important meeting having been held on the 3rd ult., to take into consideration the present defective arrangements for overland mail communication between Europe and Bombay. The mail service, already badly performed, was expected shortly to be at the mercy of two steamers and a frigate, the other steamers of the Indian navy being required in other quarters. The sum now annually paid by the Home Government to the East India Company, for the mail service between Bombay and Suez, is £50,000, or at the rate of 14s. per mile, more than double the rate paid to the P. and O. Company under their Indian contract, which is 6s. 2d. per mile. If, therefore, a contract could be made with a private company for a semi-monthly line at the same rate, with an increased communication, a saving would yet be effected of £7,000 per annum. A memorial to the Lords of the Treasury, embodying these grievances, was unanimously agreed upon.

Steamers for inter-colonial trade continue in great request in the colonies, and every available vessel is readily bought up on arrival. The "Pirate" steamer was purchased at Sydney on the 1st of June, for a mercantile house at Launceston, for £11,300, to trade between that port and Geelong.

The accounts of the state of business in the manufacturing towns during the past week show great general steadiness, the strikes of the operatives having caused a limitation of production at the precise period when the markets most required a lessening of supplies. At Manchester transactions have taken place to a fair extent, and prices are without alteration. The stoppage of the mills at Preston has excluded nearly 30,000 people from employment, and the masters at Burnley and Bacup have given notice of a similar step at those places on the 20th inst., by which a still larger number will be thrown out. At Birmingham, although the quarterly meetings of the iron trade have ended without any actual advance in prices, the various firms are indisposed to take fresh orders at existing rates, the demand from all quarters being uninterrupted. The position of the coal trade still remains uncertain, owing to the prevalence of strikes, but the masters hold to their determination not to yield. In the general business of the town there is undiminished prosperity, and the orders for machinery and agricultural implements are particularly large. Considerable shipments of furnishing ironmongery have been made to Australia during the week, but the indiscriminate exports thither have been entirely checked. From Nottingham the report states the market to have been well supported by American buyers, but dull in other respects. Still there is no want of confidence, and in many departments more hands would be employed if they could be found. The tendency to strikes seems, however, to have subsided. In the woollen districts there has been no variation. The check given to exports to the continent from the fear of war, and to Australia from the tenor of the last accounts, creates continued flatness, although here, as elsewhere, employment is abundant.

The Gazette.

Friday, October 15, 1853.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 8th day of October, 1853.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Notes Issued	29,202,465	Government Debt ..	11,015,100
		Other Securities....	2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	15,202,465
		Silver Bullion.....	—
	£29,202,465		£29,202,465

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' Capital.	14,553,000	Government Securities — (including Dead Weight Annuity)	12,339,083
Rest	3,691,119	Other Securities....	18,941,849
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings' Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Div. Accounts) ..	6,857,398	Notes	6,361,900
Other Deposits	11,633,687	Gold and Silver Coin	546,624
Seven-day and other Bills	1,453,952		
	£38,189,156		£38,189,156

Dated the 13th day of October, 1853.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BANKRUPTS.

BENNETT, WILLIAM, Foster-mill, near Hebden-bridge, Yorkshire, and Horwich, Lancashire, cotton spinner, November 2 and 30: solicitors, Messrs. Atkinson, Saunders, and Last, Manchester.

BENSLEY, EDWARD ROE, Hornsey-road, Holloway, builder, November 1 and 29: solicitor, Mr. Lawrence, Gray's-inn.

HOLBECK, JAMES, Marylebone-street, Golden-square, gold lace-man, October 22, December 3: solicitors, Messrs. Vincent and Freeman, Staple-inn.

HUNTER, JOHN, Hove, Sussex, cowkeeper, October 24, December 1: solicitors, Mr. Cotterill, Throgmorton-street; and Mr. Stuckey, Brighton.

PAYTON, FREDERICK, Birmingham, brickmaker, October 25, November 22: solicitor, Mr. East, Birmingham.

PEARCE, HARRIET, Newport, Monmouthshire, publican, October 25, November 22: solicitors, Messrs. Britton and Sons, Bristol.

STURGIS, OWEN, and ADAMS, WILLIAM, College-villas, New Finchley-road, St. John's-wood, builders, October 24, December 1: solicitors, Messrs. Lawrance, Plews, and Boyer, Old Jewry-chambers.

WHITE, JOSEPH, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, ship builder, October 26, November 23: solicitors, Messrs. Lawrance, Plews, and Boyer, Old Jewry-chambers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BOWIE, J., Edinburgh, writer to the signet, October 26.

MACDONALD, A., Glasgow, fish dealer, October 24.

PATERSON, A., Edinburgh, lace merchant, October 25.

DIVIDENDS.

A. F. Hemming, Chiswell-street, Finsbury, surgical instrument maker, second div. of 6¼d.; at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street, on Thursday next and subsequent Thursday—T. Peppin, Fenchurch-buildings, Fenchurch-street, wine merchant, second div. of 1¾d.; at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street, on Thursday next and subsequent Thursday—F. Young, Union-place, Walworth-road, draper, first div. of 4s. 11d.; at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street, on Thurs-

day next and subsequent Thursday—W. Gosling, Wycherley, ironmonger, first div. of 1s. 4½d.; at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street, on Thursday next and subsequent Thursday—E. T. Leman and T. E. Bryant, Upper Thames-street, wharfingers, second div. of 9s. 5d.; at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street, on Thursday next and subsequent Thursday—G. Scott, Brotherton, miller, first div. of 3s. 6d.; at Mr. Young's, Leeds, any day—Messrs. Child & Barker, Wakefield, contractors, second div. of 3d.; at Mr. Young's, Leeds, any day—R. M'Dermid, Wetherby, grocer, first div. of 2s. 6d.; at Mr. Young's, Leeds, any day—J. Wheeler, Scarborough, wine merchant, second div. of 2s. 1d.; at Mr. Young's, Leeds, any day—Messrs. Wood and Norton, Hoyland Nether, first div. of 1s. 8d.; at Mr. Young's, Leeds, any day—W. T. Carr, Barnsley, ironmonger, second div. of 6d.; at Mr. Young's, Leeds, any day—J. Alliott, New Miller-dam, Yorkshire, banker, first div. of 3s.; at Mr. Young's, Leeds, any day—E. Nicholson, York, tailor, second div. of 2s. 6d.; at Mr. Young's, Leeds, any day.

Tuesday, October 18.

BANKRUPTS.

ARLEWHITE, EDWARD, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square, coach builder, October 17 and November 29; solicitor, Mr. Abrahams, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane.

SAYERS, JOHN, Wandsworth, Surrey, carpenter, October 27 and November 29; solicitor, Mr. Whitfield, Mitre court, Temple.

HAVILAND, HENRY MILES, Denham, Buckinghamshire, cowkeeper, October 25 and November 29: solicitors, Messrs. Church and Son., Bedford-row.

LUCAS, SAMUEL JAMES, Hingham, Norfolk, grocer, October 29 and December 3; solicitors, Messrs. Trebern and White, Bargeyard-chambers, Bucklersbury.

COLLINS, WILLIAM HAINS, Chepstow, Monmouthshire, grocer, October 31 and November 30: solicitor, Mr. Treneerry, Bristol.

HARPER, EDWARD, Stamford, Lincolnshire, draper, October 28, and November 18: solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester and Messrs. Motteram and Knight, Birmingham.

EDWARDS, HENRY TURBERVILLE, Liverpool, builder, October 28, and November 24: solicitor, Mr. Dodge, Liverpool.

CURRON, JOHN, Liverpool, builder, November 2 and 28: solicitor, Mr. Dodge, Liverpool.

SHAW, WILLIAM, and SHAW, ISAAC, Macclesfield, Cheshire, joiners, October 28, and November 23: solicitors, Messrs. Ashurst and Son, Old Jewry; Messrs. Parrott and Co., Macclesfield; and Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

AGAR, ELIZABETH, York, grocer, October 13.

DIVIDENDS.

Daniel Keith and Thomas Shoobridge, of Wood-street, Cheapside, City, warehousemen, second dividend of 2d., October 20, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street—William Carter, High-street, Southwark, boatmaker, first dividend of 6½d., October 20, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street—Richard Howton Cuming, Lamb's Conduit-street, bookseller, final dividend of 3½d., October 20, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street—George Baker, and George Baker, jun., Threadneedle-street, City, stockbrokers, first dividend of 8d., October 20, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street—Joseph Dunthorn, Christchurch, Blackfriars-road, Surrey, corn dealer, first dividend of 6s., October 20, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street—Henry George Stahlschmidt, Fenchurch-street, City, merchant, second dividend of 1s., October 20, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street—James Thomas Wheatley, Cranmer-place, Waterloo-bridge-road, lighterman, first dividend of 9d., October 20, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street—Robert Willmott, Peterborough, Northamptonshire, tailor, first dividend of 5s., October 20, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street—William Coleman, Coventry, chemist, second dividend of 3½d., any Thursday, at Mr. Whitmore's, Birmingham.

Markets.

MARK-LANE, MONDAY, October 17.

The quantity of English Wheat offering this morning was small, but as we have had very large supplies from the continent during the past week, the trade was inactive to-day, though firmer than on Friday, and for finest dry samples last Monday's prices were maintained. In Flour little doing, and the English supply considerable. Barley dull sale, but finest malting not cheaper. Beans fully as dear. Peas went off slowly, owing to the high prices asked. The Oat trade was firm, with more business doing, the reduction of Friday last being recovered. Linseed Cakes quite as dear. The current prices as under:—

BRITISH.	s.	s.
Wheat—		
Essex, Suffolk, and Kent, Red	64	66
Ditto extra	72	74
Ditto White	64	70
Linc., Norfolk, & Yorkshire Red.	60	70
Northumber. and Scotch, White..	58	70
Rye	34	36
Barley grinding and distilling	35	38
Do. new malting	44	46
Scotch	34	36
Malt, Ordinary	—	—
Pale	66	70
Peas, Grey	42	44
Maple	44	45
White	45	50
Boilers (new)	60	66
Beans, Large	40	42
Tick	42	44
Harrow (new)	40	43
Do. (old)	44	46
Pigeon (old)	44	46
Oats—		
Linc. and York. feed	23	26
Do. Poland & Pot.	28	30
Berwick & Scotch.	28	31
Scotch feed	26	28
Irish feed and black	24	26
Ditto, Potato	28	30
Linseed	50	54
Rapeseed, Essex, new, £26 to £30 per last		
Carraway Seed, Essex, new, 42s. to 44s. per cwt.		
Rape Cake, £4 10s. to £5 per ton		
Linseed, £10 to £10 10s. per ton		
Flour per Sack, of 280 lbs.		
Ship	50	55
Town	65	70
Tares, winter, 8s. 0d. to 9s. bush.		

FOREIGN.	s.	s.
Wheat—		
Dantzig mixed	68	72
Do. high mixed	76	80
Pomeranian, Red	68	74
Uckermarck	68	74
Rostock and Mecklenburgh	68	72
Danish red	60	66
Ditto, White	64	70
Holstein	66	70
East Friesland	60	65
Belgian and French red	—	—
Ditto, White	—	—
Italian Red	—	—
Ditto, White	—	—
Archangel and Riga	50	54
Polish Odessa	58	64
Marianopoli & Berdianski	60	64
Taganrog (hard)	54	56
Egyptian	50	54
American U.S. red	66	70
Ditto, White	68	72
Genneseee	74	76
Barley—		
Danish	32	34
Saal	32	36
East Friesland	30	34
Egyptian	24	26
Danube	26	30
Peas, White	46	50
Boilers	53	56
Beans, Horse (new)	40	42
Pigeon	42	44
Egyptian	34	36
Oats—		
Swedish	24	26
Petersburg & Riga	22	25
Flour—		
U.S., per 196 lbs.	33	37
Spanish, per 280 lbs.	56	60

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, October 17.—We continue to have a good demand for all descriptions of Hops, and the recent advance in prices is fully supported. Last week's imports of Hops into London were 8 bales from Boulogne, 510 from Ostend, 75 from Antwerp, and 182 from Hambro'.

Mid and East Kents	£14 0s. to £18 18s.
Weald of Kents	£11 11s. to £13 13s.
Sussex pockets	£10 0s. to £11 11s.

BREAD.—Prices of Wheaten Bread in the Metropolis are from 10d. to 10½d.; and Household do., 8d. to 9½d. per 4lbs. loaf.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, October 17.

Our market to-day was very extensively supplied with each kind of Foreign stock, for which the demand ruled heavy at drooping prices. The arrivals of Home-fed stock being considerably on the increase, the weather very unfavourable, the attendance of country buyers comparatively small, and Newgate and Leadenhall being largely supplied, the Beef trade was in a very depressed state, at a decline in the quotations obtained on Monday last of from 2d. to, in some instances, 4d. per 8lbs., and a total clearance was not effected. The extreme value of the best Scots was 4s. 2d. per 8lbs. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire, we received 2,200 short-horns; from other parts of England, 260 Herefords, Runts, Devons, &c.; and from Scotland, 4 Scots. With Sheep we were seasonably well supplied, and there was a slight improvement in their general quality. Even the primest old Downs were heavy, and 2d. per 8lbs. lower; all other breeds ruled very dull, at 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs. less money. The extreme value of Downs was 5s. per 8lbs. Calves, the supply of which was good, sold heavily at from 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs. less money. In Pigs very little was doing, at 3d. per 8lbs. decline. The supply was tolerably extensive.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offals.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior Beasts	2	6	3	0	Prime coarse Sheep	4	0	4	4
Second quality do.	3	1	3	4	Prime South Down	4	6	5	0
Prime large Oxen	3	6	3	8	Large coarse Calves	3	8	4	0
Prime Scots, &c.	3	10	4	2	Prime small do.	4	2	4	6
Inferior Sheep	2	8	3	0	Large Hogs	3	6	3	10
Second quality do.	3	2	3	10	Neat small Porkers	4	0	4	10

Suckling Calves, 22s. to 27s.; and quarter-old store Pigs, 21s. to 26s. each.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday	1,230	7,500	410	422
Monday	6,060	31,050	343	468

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, October 17.—The supplies of both town and country-killed Meat having been considerably on the increase, the general demand has ruled heavy, and prices have had a downward tendency.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior Beef	3	6	to 3	0	Inferior Mutton	2	8	to 3	4
Middling do	3	2	.. 3	4	Middling do	3	8	.. 4	4
Prime large do.	3	4	.. 3	6	Prime do	4	0	.. 4	8
Prime small do.	3	8	.. 3	10	Veal	3	2	.. 4	4
Large Pork	3	8	.. 4	0	Small Pork	4	6	.. 5	0

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, October 17.—Since Monday last, the arrivals of Home-grown Potatoes have been very moderate, and greatly out of condition. The imports have been large, namely, 800 tons from Dunkirk, 42 bags from Antwerp, 100 tons from Boulogne, 50 ditto from Gravelines, 840 ditto from Rouen, 135 baskets from Rotterdam, 434 tons from Havre, 68 ditto from Hambro', 70 ditto from Dieppe, 42 ditto from Calais, and 291 from other quarters. The demand is steady as follows:—

Shaws	120s. to 140s. per ton.
Regents	150s. to 180s. "
Foreign	140s. to 160s. "

PROVISIONS.—LONDON, MONDAY, October 17.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 14,662 firkins Butter, and 1,190 bales Bacon; and from foreign ports, 12,857 casks Butter, and 565 bales Bacon. The Irish Butter market ruled slow during the past week, and the business transacted was to a moderate extent; both buyers and sellers careless to operate. Prices remain as on this day se'nnight. Foreign declined 2s. to 4s. per cwt. Bacon sold rather better, and the market recovered the decline of the previous week. Prime Waterford sizeable was pretty well cleared off at 63s. to 64s. landed; Hamburg, 60s. to 61s. In Lard, no alteration to notice.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

	s.	s.		s.	s.
Friesland....per cwt.	98	to 100	Double Gloucester, per cwt.	66	to 74
Kiel	90	.. 94	Single, do.	68	.. 72
Dorset (new)	98	..104	York Hams (new)	80	.. 90
Ditto (middling)	—	.. —	Westmoreland	80	.. 86
Carlow (new)	96	..100	Irish	70	.. 76
Waterford, do.	92	.. 96	American, do.	—	.. —
Cork, do.	94	.. 98	Wiltshire Bacon (green)	66	.. 68
Limerick, do.	90	.. 94	Waterford Bacon	62	.. 64
Sligo	90	.. 96	Hamburg, do.	—	.. —
Fresh, per doz. 12s.0d. 13s. 0d.			American, do.	—	.. —
Cheshire Cheese, per cwt.	70	.. 86			
Cheddar, do	72	.. 84			

ENGLISH BUTTER MARKET, October 17.—Our trade opens very dull to-day, and prices are not supported. Much depression prevails in the fresh Butter department.

Dorset, fine weekly	106s. to 108s. per cwt.
Ditto, middling	90s. to 100s. "
Devon	98s. to 102s. "

HAY, SATURDAY, October 8.—At per load of 36 trusses.

	Smithfield.	Cumberland.	Whitechapel.
Meadow Hay	68s. to 115s.	70s. to 117s.	68s. to 112s.
Clover	80s. to 126s.	7 s. to 120s.	80s. to 126s.
Straw	35s. to 42s.	36s. to 44s.	35s. to 42s.

SEEDS, MONDAY, October 17.—Holders of Seeds demanded enhanced terms. Rape was held at £32 per last, and for Canary-seed 70s. per qr. was asked. New Carraway-seed sold at 44s., and for fine old 48s. was demanded. Tares rather slow.

BRITISH SEEDS.

Linseed (per qr.)	sowing 54s. to 58s.; crushing, 45s. to 50s.
Linseed Cakes (per ton)	£8 10s. to £10 0s.
Rapeseed (per last)	£30 to £32
Ditto Cake (per ton)	£4 15s. to £5 5s.
Cloverseed (per cwt.)	(nominal) 00s. to 00s.
Mustard (per bush)	white (new) 15s. to 18s.; brown, 10s. to 13s.
Coriander (per cwt.)	old, 10s. to 15s.
Canary (per qr.)	65s. to 70s.
Tares (per bushel), Winter, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 0d.; Spring (none).	
Carraway (per cwt.)	42s. to 48s.
Turnip, white (per bushel)	Swede (nominal)
Trefoil (per cwt.)	17s. to 21s.
Cow Grass (per qr.)	(nominal) 00s. to 00s.

FOREIGN SEEDS, &c.

Linseed (per qr.)	Baltic, 43s. to 46s.; Odessa, 45s. to 49s.
Linseed Cake (per ton)	£8 to £10.
Rape Cake (per ton)	£4 18s. to £5 0s.
Hempseed, small (per qr.)	33s. to 35s.; Do. Dutch, 37s. to 38s.
Tares (per qr.)	old, small, 30s. to 36s.; large, 36s. to 42s.
Rye Grass (per qr.)	28s. to 35s.
Coriander (per cwt.)	10s. to 13s.
Clover, red (duty, 5s. per cwt.)	(nominal) 00s. to 00.

There is an active inquiry for Linseed, on higher terms. Bombay has realized 55s.; Black Sea, 53s. 6d. ex ship and on the spot; Calcutta, on passage, 54s. 6d.; and Taganrog, 53s. 6d. per qr. East India Rapeseed is worth 35s. to 36s. Linseed Cakes are dearer. English Rapecakes are worth £6 per ton.

TALLOW, MONDAY, October 17.—The latest advices from St. Petersburg state that the total shipments of Tallow were 86,206 casks, against 63,396 ditto in 1852, 90,794 in 1851, and 96,576 in 1850. Our market is firm. P.Y.C. on the spot is 56s. 6d., for the last three months' 56s. 3d., and for the spring, 56s. 6d. to 59s. per cwt. Town Tallow, 60s. per cwt. net cash. Rough Fat, 3s. 4d. per 8lbs.

PARTICULARS OF TALLOW.

	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.
	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.
Stock this day	41488	36795	38387	29521	20942
Price of Y. C.	37s. 0d. to —s. 0d.	38s. 6d. to —s. 0d.	37s. 9d. to 38s. 0d.	43s. 0d. to 43s. 3d.	56s. 6d. to —s. 0d.
Delivery last week	2819	2321	2317	2663	2031
Do. from 1st June	31713	31626	33193	31540	28963
Arrived last week	775	11837	2413	533	7416
Do. from 1st June	47768	48793	35047	20433	36590
Price of Town	39s. 6d.	41s. 0d.	40s. 0d.	45s. 6d.	62s. 6d.

COAL MARKET, MONDAY, October 17. Owing to the short supply, factors realized an advance on Friday's rates.—Braddyll's, 26s.; Haswell, 2 s. 6d.; Hartley's, 22s.—Fresh arrivals, 7; left from last day, 2: total, 9.

METALS, LONDON, October 15.—Tin is in very moderate request, and prices have given way 1s. per cwt.; British is held at an advance of 6s. on the smelters' prices. Spelter is dull, and 2s. to 10s. per ton lower. The present quotation is £20 5s. on the spot. Lead is the turn higher, with a good inquiry. Tin plates have a downward tendency. Scotch Pig Iron, 53s.

COVENT GARDEN, SATURDAY, October 15.

The market continues to be well supplied with Vegetables and Fruit, but trade remains dull. Good melting Peaches and Nectarines are over. English Grapes are abundant. Pears now consist of Beurré d'Amanlis, Brown Beurré, Bonne Louis, Gansel's Bergamot, and Marie Louise. Importations of Potatoes from the continent are still kept up. Plums from the South of France fetch 6s. per basket. English Plums are nearly over. Carrots and Turnips fetch from 2d. to 4d. per bunch. Potatoes are much diseased, but prices for them are rather better. Mushrooms are much more plentiful, and a little cheaper. Cut flowers consist of Pelargoniums, Funchias, Roses, Mignonette, and Tree Carnations.

HIDES AND SKINS, SATURDAY, October 15.

The supplies of both Hides and Skins on offer this week have been extensive. The former have sold heavily at drooping prices, but the value of the latter has slightly improved.

		s.	d.		s.	d.	
Market Hides,	56 to 64 lbs.	0	2½	to 0	3	per lb.	
Ditto	64 72 lbs.	0	3	0	0	"	
Ditto	72 80 lbs.	0	3½	0	3½	"	
Ditto	80 88 lbs.	0	3½	0	3½	"	
Ditto	88 96 lbs.	0	3½	0	4	"	
Horse Hides		0	0	6	6	each	
Calf Skins, light		2	0	3	0	"	
Ditto full		6	6	0	0	"	
Polled Sheep		4	6	5	4	"	
Kents and Half-breds		4	2	4	6	"	

CHICORY, LONDON, Saturday, October 15,

Our market is very inactive, and prices are with difficulty supported. The supply on offer is increasing. British root is selling at from £10 to £11; powder, £20 to £24. Foreign root, duty paid, £10 10s. to £11 10s. per ton.

Per ton.

	£	s.	£	s.		£	s.	£	s.
Foreign root (d.p.)					Roasted & ground				
Harlingen	10	10	11	10	English	30	0	34	0
English root (free)					Foreign	34	0	38	0
Guernsey	11	0	13	0	Guernsey	29	0	31	0
York	10	0	11	0					

Duty on all Coffee and roasted Chicory imported, 3d. per lb.; on Chicory Root, £21 per ton.

WOOL MARKET.

BRITISH, MONDAY, October 15.—Our market, arising from the warlike news from the East, the comparatively high value of money, and the near approach of the public sales, is exceedingly heavy, and the quotations are almost nominal. The stocks have not increased, and the supplies in the hands of the growers are by no means extensive.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
South Down Hoggets	1	4	to	1	6½
Half-bred ditto	1	4	..	1	6
Ewes, clothing	1	2	..	1	3½
Kent fleeces	1	1½	..	1	3
Combing skins	1	1	..	1	5
Flannel wool	1	0	..	1	5
Blanket wool	0	8	..	1	0½
Leicester fleeces	1	2½	..	1	4

SCOTCH WOOL, LIVERPOOL, October 15.—There is not much doing, but prices are without any alteration.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Laid Highland Wool, per 24lbs.	13	6	to	14	6
White Highland do.	17	0	..	18	0
Laid Crossed do., unwashed	18	0	..	19	0
Do. do., washed	19	0	..	21	0
Laid Cheviot, do., unwashed	20	0	..	23	0
Do. do., washed	23	0	..	26	0
White Cheviot, do. do.	30	0	..	32	0

Imports for the week	109 bags.
Previously this year	54.2 "

FOREIGN, CITY, MONDAY, October 17.—The imports of Wool into London last week were 1,796 bales, of which 1,125 were from Sydney, 221 from Germany, 137 from Mazagan, 34 from Russia, and the rest from Belgium, &c.

COTTON.

LIVERPOOL, OCT. 15.—The market continues firm; the good staple qualities of American are fully ¼d. per lb. above last week's rates. Brazils are ¼d., and Egyptians ½d. per lb lower. Surats without change. Sales, 6,000 bales, including 1,500 for export and on speculation, and comprise 20 Pernams and Maranhams, 6¾d.; 40 Bahia, 6¾d.; 20 Egyptian, 8¼d.; and 700 Surat, 3d. to 4¼d. per lb. Import since Thursday, 25,000 bales.

MANCHESTER, OCT. 15.—There has been a better feeling and more activity in the market for Manchester goods, more especially in yarns, which are, as a consequence, firmer in price. Warps and 30's water twist were in good request, and a slight advance was obtained. The demand embraced a larger class of yarns than have been on sale for some weeks past, and most of the sellers were in a position encouraging them to ask full prices even where an advance was not sought. In cloth also there was a firmer market, and light madappollams and shirtings of India qualities have been in fair demand at rather hardening prices. For fustian and dyed goods the inquiry was more active. An old and rather large spinning firm in Hulme were reported in difficulties; but their liabilities are said not to be very large, and it is thought not improbable that time may be given them so as to enable a resumption. The meeting of creditors is to-morrow. The increased firmness is in some measure attributed to the large decrease of production which will result from the closing of mills at Preston; but it cannot be wholly due to that, because the production to a large extent at Preston is of goods which find a market in China, and the cessation of demand in that quarter, through the revolution, would naturally render the stoppage of production a very desirable measure of relief to have come sooner or later, had the millowners not been involved with their workpeople.

PRODUCE MARKETS, MINCING-LANE, October 18.

SUGAR.—The market has opened with a dull appearance; the trade has bought what their immediate wants required, and good current qualities sold at last week's prices, but low descriptions were out of demand, and the importers bought them in as previous prices were not offered. 500 hhds. West India sold, about half in public sale. 7,000 bags Mauritius were brought forward in public sale, about half sold 28s. to 30s. 6d. 5,000 bags Bengal were also offered, and about 3,000 sold; grainy, 40s. 6d. to 41s. 6d.; Benares, 37s. 6d. to 39s. 6d.; Mauritius sold, 35s. to 38s. A cargo of yellow Havannah reported sold afloat. The refined market steady at last week's prices.

COFFEE.—We do not alter general quotations, but prices have with difficulty been supported. 300 casks plantation Ceylon were offered in public sale, and chiefly sold, 53s. 6d. to 60s.; 70 bales Mocha bought in, 80s.; 100 cases fine East India, sold, 58s. to 62s. 6d.

COCOA.—400 bags Trinidad, about half sold, 31s. to 35s.

TEA.—The demand has again been active, and a large business done, chiefly medium congou, establishing an advance of ½ to ½ on prices which ruled previous to the arrival of the mail. Common congou quoted 11½ per lb.

INDIGO (9th day).—The sale will conclude to-morrow, and the room was thinly attended; the quantity now passed auction is 14,500 chests, of which 5,450 have been withdrawn, 4,000 bought in, leaving 4,000 sold.

SPICES.—There has not been a public sale to-day.

SALTPETRE.—1,700 bags were offered in public sale; refraction 2½, fine, sold at 30s. to 30s. 6d.; refraction 2, bought in at 30s.

Advertisements.

THE REV. W. FORSTER preaches regularly every SUNDAY, at the TEMPORARY FREE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, HAWLEY-CRESCENT, CAMDEN TOWN. In the Morning at Eleven, and in the Evening at Half-past Six o'Clock.

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BONTEMS' POLITICAL COMMENTATOR. Number 5, for October, contains:—A new scheme of Representation—Particulars of the Act for the Gradual Enfranchisement of Copyholds—The late Harvest, and the necessity or the better Cultivation of Land—&c., &c., &c. Price One Penny.

William Freeman, 69, Fleet-street.

This day is published, price Twopence,

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London: William Freeman, 69, Fleet-street.

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HUGH BROWN TAPLIN, Secretary.

Chief Office, 25, Cannon-street, London.

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London, August, 1853.

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Selections from Testimonials of Christian Ministers in favour of the Rev A. Fletcher's "Guide to Family Devotion."

I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the worth of "Fletcher's Family Devotion." It is admirably adapted to accomplish the sacred purpose for which it is intended. The genial warmth of true spirituality pervades it throughout; and it may safely be recommended, both for the judgment and piety by which it is characterized, to earnest-minded Christians of every denomination. Great as its circulation already is, I should be glad to find it increased, and increasing

Yours very faithfully,

Henry Stebbing

Parsonage, St. James's, Hampstead-road.

Extract from a letter by the Rev. J. Harris, D.D., *Author of "Mammon."*

The conception and arrangement of the work are admirable; and as far as I have had an opportunity of judging, the execution of it equals the plan. I have read various parts of it attentively; and while I have not met with anything which I could wish to have been omitted, most unfeignedly can I say that I have found much calculated to inspire and sustain devotion.

John Harris

Epsom.

I am enabled to speak with propriety and confidence of the real worth and admirable adaptation to usefulness of your work. I have used it much in my own family, and I can truly say that as I advance it grows in my esteem. You have rendered a most important service to Christian households by your labours, and I have no doubt that its circulation will be as extensive as your most sanguine expectations could anticipate.

Jno. R. Castles

Liverpool.

A superficial survey of it ["A Guide to Family Devotion"] is sufficient to manifest that its plan is the most complete of any with which I am acquainted, embracing everything which the service of the family altar requires, or admits of; while its execution is also such as to entitle it to commendation, and secure for it the circulation and use which it deserves.

J. S. James

Birmingham.

I consider it a vast advantage to persons who begin housekeeping, if unaccustomed to extemporaneous prayer, to have such a help to devotion as your work affords. Many, especially females, have felt considerable difficulty in conducting family worship, for want of a selection of Scriptures adapted to family reading: this difficulty your work meets, and cannot but be appreciated by a large class of the Christian community. The work appears to me to be executed devotionally, which, in my opinion, is a strong recommendation to its excellency. With many sincere wishes for its success,

Surrey Chapel House. J. Thermare

On examination, I am much pleased with it ["A Guide to Family Devotion,"] and feel, when I am called to leave my family, that I leave for its use a good substitute behind me.

J. Burnet

Weigh House.

The evangelical strain of the prayers gives them an advantage over most other forms which have been published for families: I mean not only the savour of evangelical feeling and motive with which they are imbued, but the frequent addresses which are intermingled to each Divine Person of the Triune Jehovah. I trust that your labours will lead many families to a practical use and enjoyment of the glorious privileges of the Gospel.

Isaac Pratt

Late Vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman-street.

I feel it right to express my opinion that the *plan* is excellent, and that the *execution* of the plan is judicious, and well adapted to its purpose, as an aid to the great duty and blessing of family, conjugal, and secret worship.

Wyc Smith

Homerton.

Letters have also been received from the following Clergymen:—Rev. W. B. Collyer, D.D., Peckham; Rev. J. Morison, D.D., Chelsea; Rev. James Parsons, York; Rev. Samuel Ransom, Hackney; Rev. A. Thomson, Coldstream; &c. In addition to which, upwards of One Hundred of the most influential Clergymen of America have testified, by letter, their high commendation of the excellence and great utility of the above-named Work.

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NEW LIFE POLICIES ISSUED.

	No.	Amount.	Total Issued.	
1st year 1847	257	£49,998	257	£49,998
2nd „ 1848	311	48,039	568	98,037
3rd „ 1849	708	107,629	1,276	205,666
4th „ 1850	809	136,365	2,085	342,031
5th „ 1851	1,065	211,272	3,150	553,303
6th „ 1852	1,400	281,687	4,550	834,990

The new business of the year consists of 1,400 life policies, assuring £281,687, the annual premium thereon being above £9,100.

The annual revenue of the Company on life business has been increased, after deducting for lapsed policies, about £8,358; and the amount assured by the new life policies in 1852, is above 33 per cent. more than those of 1851.

The Legislature has granted a special Act of Parliament, by which various important privileges have been conferred upon this society.

The life policies in force on December 31st, 1852, were 3,955, assuring £732,605, the annual income thereon being £23,800 13s. 3d.

After payment of all expenses and claims, the Company has accumulated the sum of £45,831 12s. 8d., invested on approved securities.

The Report was adopted, and the retiring officers re-elected unanimously. W. S. GOVER, Actuary and Secretary.

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THE PEACE CONFERENCE IN EDINBURGH.

INTRODUCTORY SKETCH.

PEACE Congresses are now a European institution. Once at least every year some great city of the civilized world becomes a centre around which gathers earnestness of purpose — deepened in intensity by many a triumph in the cause of humanity; high intelligence, bringing its quota of facts and eloquence; ardent enthusiasm to make the heart glow with "thoughts that breathe and words that burn" in the cause of universal peace. These periodical gatherings serve a twofold purpose—indoctrinating some particular district with the principles and common sense view of the Peace advocates, and obtaining access to the popular mind of Europe through its press. Thus, as Mr. Conder justly said, "the mere spreading of the principles of peace should be recognised as a *thoroughly practical thing*;" for events are but opinion in action. Many good men consider a Peace Congress at the present time as very ill-timed, and not a few illogical doubters may accept as true the flippant dictum that "the Anti-corn-law League was a great fact, but the Peace League a great fiction." Ten years hence the latter will, we have no doubt, class the two agitations together, while the best antidote to the opinions of the former is a thoughtful perusal of the report of the Edinburgh meetings. The friends of peace have a work in hand which cannot brook suspension—whatever the aspect of present events. Nay, so fearful and illimitable are the evils that may spring out of a European war, that the English people ought to be thankful to their friends who will place before them the consequences in all their bearings. The Peace Conference appeal "from Philip drunk to Philip sober." They have endeavoured to moderate the denunciations of the oppressor and the warmth of passion in favour of continental freedom, by considerations on the other side—such as the enormous evil of standing armaments, the difficulty of realizing in actual fact, and by means of physical force, those ardent aspirations for freedom which burn in the breasts of Englishmen, the impossibility of gaining by war an equivalent equal to the loss incurred, and the disastrous effects of hostilities upon the morals and means of the industrious classes in particular, and upon nearly all national improvement whatever. The Peace Conference say to the people of England, "'Look on this picture and on that:' you will then be better able to arrive at a mature decision."

At no period since the commencement of these meetings has the political horizon been so menacing. A storm is threatening to burst over Europe, but the friends of peace remain true to their mission, and if they cannot avert, may allay it; if not allay it, take means for warding off a future calamity. Heretofore, Brussels, Paris, Frankfort, London, and Manchester, have been their rallying point. Now, the capital of Scotland was the scene of their labours; and, may we not add, of their success? In no respect was there any falling-off from preceding Conferences. In the Music Hall of Modern Athens, the largest building in the city, were assembled on Wednesday last the old familiar faces, and many new ones, with the Chief Magistrate in the chair, and surrounded by a body-guard of men whose names are famous in the cause of peace. The hall is a fine specimen of the architectural taste of the most beautiful city of the United Kingdom, and holds from 2,000 to 2,500 people. So crowded was the attendance during the deliberations of the Conference, that it seemed like a succession of public meetings. With the customary enthusiasm, there was more of good and effective speaking than usual, and an entire absence of mere declamation. It seemed as though the friends of peace felt their responsibility of their position at the present juncture, and were resolved to base their movement more securely upon the foundations of truth, justice, and common sense.

On these occasions the chairman is an object of special interest to some, of particular obloquy to others. No doubt the Lord Provost of Edinburgh has passed the latter ordeal, in coming boldly forward to identify himself with an incipient movement, and throw the weight of a deserved influence and position into the cause of peace. The reputation of Mr. Duncan M'Laren extends far beyond the Tweed. He is one of those self-made men who, happily, are not few on either side the Border. In his mild, thoughtful, and almost pensive countenance, it is not difficult to discern that strong sense and wisdom which mark his character. His active labours in the Anti-corn-law League, his untiring devotion to the local interests of Edinburgh, and his gallant contest for the representation of that city with Mr. Macaulay and Mr. Cowan, at the last election, are well known to the public; his labours in the Peace cause, urbanity of manner, and cordial hospitality, have been fully exhibited during the past week. In no act did the Conference seem more heartily to concur than in the vote of thanks to the Lord Provost at the conclusion of the proceedings.

On Wednesday the Conference sat from 12 until 4, and from 7 to 9. So many were the points of interest which successively arose, that it is difficult specially to select any for notice. It is gratifying, however, to know, that of the proposed £10,000 fund £8,000 has already been subscribed, and that over £300 has been since contributed, chiefly by friends in Scotland. The statement that some 120,000 of Mr. Cobden's pamphlet, "1793 and 1853," gives us a glimpse of the extent of the agency which has been thus brought into operation. These important facts were appropriately detailed by Mr. Richard, the secretary, to whose business habits, untiring energies, and quiet management, these gatherings owe much of their success. There is a perfection in the arrangement of these Conferences we have never seen elsewhere. It will be noticed that the resolutions adopted by the Conference are the same as those ratified by preceding meetings. There was nothing ostensibly bearing upon the present aspect of affairs. The Peace advocates assume the position of teachers rather than of advisers, and look to the future rather than the present for their triumphs. The speeches, nevertheless, were unusually varied. Professor M'Michael created a most favourable impression of his logical power, beauty of style, and impressiveness of manner, in showing the incompatibility of the profession of arms with allegiance to the Christian profession. Mr. Miall addressed himself briefly to the Eastern question, threw out a sly sarcasm against the bellicose attitude of many Christians towards the Grand Duke of Tuscany, and appealed to the consciences of the opponents of despotism whether, if the decision of peace or war in Europe depended on *their word*, they would venture an affirmative decision. Then followed Mr. Cobden, whose appearance was the signal for enthusiastic cheering. It was generally remarked that he looked less robust than usual, and, undoubtedly, the fatigues of two days' speaking must have told severely upon his frame. But his animation of manner and pleasant sarcasm were not in the least diminished. Nothing could be more complete than his treatment of the late invasion panic, wound up by his allusion to *Punch's* caricature (putting his fingers over his forehead), and the exclamation, "Who has got the long ears and the foolscap now?" Far more satisfactory than his last speech in Parliament were his allusions to the Turkish question, which exhibited that pains-taking storing up of facts, weighing of events, and gradual evolution of his points, characteristic of the man. No man can more vividly maintain a position from his own point of view, and throw new light upon a difficult question. Very telling to our own minds were his statements that it is, after all, a *good* to the Christians of Turkey which Russia was for its own purposes seeking (the unprivileged classes having usually wrested their privileges from the strife and jealousies of tyrants), his reply to Lord Palmerston's bold assertions as to the progress of Turkey, his description of Mahomedanism as it exists, and his reference to the anticipated war, and the absence of any treaty whatsoever binding us to maintain the integrity of the Ottoman Empire. "We are not to have war now," he emphatically declared. We hope he may prove a true prophet. His declaration that we are not called upon by God to exercise vengeance upon Russia for doing the same thing as ourselves in India, was very heartily applauded. Mr. Cobden's telling speech has furnished food for newspaper discussion for a forthight to come. The venerable Mr. Hadfield, M.P. for Sheffield, made a shrewd speech, and, amongst other things, drew attention to the fact that three states of America—Maine, Rhode Island, and Vermont—have adopted the principle of arbitration clauses in treaties. Shortly after the Conference adjourned; a large number of the members dining together in a lower room in the same building, and many hastening off to see the various sights for which Edinburgh is so pre-eminently distinguished. It is worthy of notice that many of the public institutions of the city were opened, gratis, to members of the Conference.

The evening meeting brought together an undiminished audience, amongst whom was Admiral Sir Charles Napier, in fulfilment of his promise. On this occasion he occupied a retired position. Mr. Cowan, M.P. for the city, presided, but his feeble advocacy of the Peace question was not very well received, while his warlike reference to the case of Miss Cunninghame provoked a hubbub, and brought down upon him, at a later period, a good-humoured castigation from Mr. Bowly, a very able and humorous speaker, which was not a little relished by the audience. How was it, he retorted, that those individuals who sympathized so much with Miss Cunninghame in Tuscany, had no sympathy with individuals who week after week, and month after month, were in jail in that city, because they could not conscientiously pay church-rates? [loud applause, and some hissing.] Mr. Bright monopolized the principal interest of the evening, and amply did he justify expectation. Not that his speech was so suited to passing events as Mr. Cobden's, but it massed together broad and palpable facts, and held them up in the light of justice and common sense, until the conviction of the wickedness and absurdity of the system forced itself on the mind, willingly or unwillingly. None could escape the moral influence of the orator and his direct appeals to their reason and manliness. Such statements as his should be deeply pondered by men whose generous sympathies are blinding their judgment. Perhaps his most forcible argument, as bearing upon passing events, was the ability of the United States, in spite of a small navy and a mere apology for an army, to make themselves respected throughout the world. This is true; and as compared with ourselves, shows that it is rather the fault of a tinsel diplomacy, than the want of moral power, which prevents England from occupying a similar position. Mr. Bright's allusions to the Nineveh sculptures, to the loan system, and to the British lion, were also very happy. One fact mentioned by him, should be again and again reiterated. Our warlike expenditure capitalized, is equal to four times the value of all the land and all the buildings of Lancashire—the most populous and wealthy county in the United Kingdom. Well might Mr. Bright, after accumulating such illustrations of the folly and wickedness of our military system, exclaim:—

"When we become a more enlightened people, when we come to be what we profess—a Christian nation—then our posterity will look back to these times with wonder and astonishment. They will say, were there no churches in 1853? Were there no chapels? Were there no ministers of the Gospel of Peace? [loud cheers.] What were the men doing? Were they splitting hairs? Were they disputing whether baptism should be by sprinkling an infant, or immersing a grown man? [cheers.] Were they disputing whether they might lawfully burn candles on an altar? [loud cheers.] Were they disputing as to the precise amount of labour which a man might do or might not do on the Sabbath? [loud cheers.] What were their ministers and their people about? Were their sects—their professing Christian sects—hunting each other to death? [continued cheers.] Why were they not pointing the people to this gigantic and incredible evil? Why were they not endeavouring to wipe away from this Christian nation the heaviest disgrace which has ever attached to it? [hear.]"

In listening to this impressive address one could not help rejoicing in the massive strength of that stalwart and enduring frame, and in an eloquence no less potential in the Senate than on the platform. Amongst the succeeding speakers was Mr. W. Biggs, the intelligent member for Newport, who has devoted considerable attention to the Eastern question, and lately published a pamphlet on the subject.

Although there was no expectation of any special attraction, on Thursday morning, the attendance of delegates, and even of visitors, was scarcely diminished. The speaking was brief, pointed, and practical. The speech of Mr. Conder, the successor of Dr. Hamilton at Leeds, was as argumentative as it was fervid, and we know of at least one intelligent friend who, unconvinced by the facts of Mr. Cobden, was staggered by the Christian philosophy of Mr. Conder. Mr. James Bell, M.P., in a sensible and practical speech, brought his personal testimony to show that England had never interfered for good in continental affairs, while Mr. Renton, a missionary, entered upon a comparison between the Kafirs and Cape colonists, greatly to the disadvantage of the latter. Mr. J. B. Smith, M.P., showed how we ought to do without a force of 6,000 men and almost unlimited stores in Canada, where the people were better off than ourselves; and Mr. H. Vincent made one of the most telling and practical speeches we ever heard from his lips, on the much-abused commercial principle, and the evils of secret diplomacy. It would be well if Englishmen, whether favourable to the Peace movement or not, would re-echo his advice:—"Away with secret diplomacy, and whatever is done affecting the lives and liberties of the world, let it be done openly and above-board." One of the sentiments uttered by Mr. Collins, editor of the *Hull Advertiser*, is very apropos to passing events, though but little acquiesced in by Christian men:—

"Martyrs had their crowns, and they should be prepared for them [hear]. If Christian men—if he himself went from England and offended the laws of any country (and he should not hesitate to offend the laws if he thought it was in the discharge of his duty to God), he would say to his country, 'Don't interfere; I am prepared to suffer the consequences' [applause, and some hisses]."

This was in allusion to a remark from Sir W. Johnston at a Protestant meeting in Edinburgh, who said, "It would be beneath the dignity of this country to ask twice for the liberation of Miss Cunninghame." How different this from the more Christian, if extreme views of the Friends, whose faith in the overruling Providence of God and fearlessness of consequences in carrying out the non-resistance principle, must extort the admiration of all who differ from them.

The subsequent speakers comprised Mr. Charles Hindley, M.P., the consistent and tried President of the Peace Society; Mr. L. Heyworth, M.P., well known in connexion with every philanthropic movement; the Rev. Dr. Massie, of London; and the Rev. B. Parsons, of Ebley, whose successful efforts to identify himself with, and improve, the working classes, and raise the standard of education, are well known to our readers. Then followed the votes of thanks to secretaries and chairman—both well merited. The hospitality of the citizens of Edinburgh is well known, and favourably contrasts with many southern towns and cities, not omitting London itself. This reputation was amply sustained during the past week, and, as we know, extorted admiration from the lips of many visitors. The proceedings of the morning were wound up by three cheers from the Lord Provost—Mr. Cobden acting as fugleman with his usual energy—and a vote of thanks to Messrs. Richard and Stokes, the secretaries for London.

In the evening, long before seven o'clock, the Music Hall was crammed by an expectant meeting. Sir Charles Napier was there, to the left of the Chairman, and excited much interest amongst the audience. Elihu Burritt, who has now left for America, and who developed his ideas for giving effect to the arbitration principle between nations, was received with an enthusiasm worthy of the untiring originator of the Ocean Postage scheme. It seems but yesterday that this grand and simple idea was put into practical shape. It is now applauded by Cabinets and Senates. It may be but a few years hence, when the theoretical ideas of our friend respecting a High Court of Judicature for Nations may assume a similar complexion. Honour to the pioneer! Mr. Burnet, the veteran of every good and forward movement for the last quarter of a century, and whose power of endurance is as remarkable as his genial humour and versatile powers, was also cordially received in addressing the meeting. In a few brief sketches of men of the Peace Conference, the *Scottish Press* says of Mr. Burnet:—

"It will not be a severe criticism upon him to say, that he is not so young as he once was. He has still the bright eye and the intelligent look, and the playful joke, and the ready utterance, but the *fervidity* of his spirit is gone; and we love to hear him talk because we used to hear him speak, and, if he be scarcely 'the old man eloquent' now, he is better—the old man as much in love with liberty, and as uncompromising in his assertion of principle, as when his name was a spell to conjure with."

As Mr. Cobden arose, expectation was heightened, from the knowledge that an opponent was to follow. The speech, more than an hour and a half in length, was one of his greatest efforts. Without the aid of a single note, he marshalled his facts, one by one, without confusion, and in their proper order, ever and anon modulating his voice to avoid harshness, and occasionally rising to an elevated eloquence. The personal kindliness of the man appeared in his reference to Sir Charles Napier. So interesting a speech, abounding in information and striking deductions, will be neglected by no newspaper reader. Mr. Cobden made a great point in showing that the discoveries of science were likely continually to displace our present means of defence, and succeeded much better than on any previous occasion, in showing that Russia was doing much to encourage industry at home, and more generally approximated, in social relationships, to other European powers than was generally supposed. We are rather surprised that neither he, nor any other member of the Conference, pressed home the argument that may be drawn from the notorious corruption of the Turkish officials, and that at the present moment, when Europe may imagine herself on the brink of war, it is well known that a Russian envoy is secretly dispensing his bribes amongst the Turkish Ministry, with a view to patch up a secret treaty. From Mr. Cobden's concluding remarks it would seem likely, that the friends of peace, far from being drowned in the current of events, will now assume the aspect of an independent and compact party. Sir C. Napier was very cordially received — so much does a manly and straightforward course disarm opposition all the world over. It must be confessed, that his arguments were but feeble, and not calculated to subserve his object—such as his *naïve* confession, "The Duke of Wellington was always a peace man *after the war was over*." When he retired, it was already near eleven o'clock, and Mr. Bright hesitated in responding to the call of the meeting at that advanced hour. It was evident that he was obliged to omit much which he would have said had time permitted. Yet the speech was one of great power, and some of its arguments very masterly. He, in common with several preceding speakers, emphatically repudiated the claim of Lord Palmerston to be considered as the friend of continental freedom. He said he heard Lord Palmerston, in the House of Commons, go out of his way needlessly and intentionally to express a sort of approbation of the intervention of Russia in the case of Hungary. The assumption of Admiral Napier, that the French people were nothing better than brigands, that the cost of a rumour of war upon a depression of the funds and other causes might be calculated at nothing short of £200,000,000, and the inquiry what the reality must then be, were happily dealt with. His peroration was one of the finest specimens of impressive eloquence it was ever our fortune to hear. The audience seemed electrified by the speaker.

Of the promenade and soirée on Friday evening we have given a brief description in our report. It was a fitting and pleasing finale to a series of peace meetings unequalled in interest and effectiveness. Where the next will be held we know not; but it is now certain *they will not cease*. Who will venture to say that they will eventually fail of carrying out their design? Such persistency always has triumphed eventually, and no doubt will do so in this case.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

The members of the Conference assembled on Wednesday morning, at 12 o'clock, in the Music-hall, George-street. There were eleven members of Parliament present; viz., Messrs. Charles Cowan, Richard Cobden, John Bright, George Hadfield, Charles Hindley, J. B. Smith, James Bell, Edward Miall, Lawrence Heyworth, Joseph Crook, and William Biggs. The names of most of the other persons of note who attended, appear in the course of our report. Amongst the silent delegates and vistors, were:—Provost Thoms, Dundee; Provost Beveridge, Dunfermline; Henry Pease, Esq., Darlington; Thomas Thomason, Esq., Bolton; Jonathan Priestman, Esq., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Richard Peek, Esq.; J. Backhouse, Esq., Sunderland; G. W. Harrison, Esq., Wakefield; Rev. Dr. Guthrie, and Rev. Dr. Begg, Edinburgh; Mr. Ald. Harvey, Manchester; James Simpson, Esq., Accrington; Dr. Dick, Dundee; Rev. Dr. M'Farlane, Glasgow; Rev. George Jeffrey, ditto; J. H. Stott, Esq., Edinburgh; Rev. Henry Renton, Kelso; Rev. Dr. Brown, Edinburgh; Rev. Dr. Robson, Glasgow; Rev. James Robertson, Edinburgh; John Wigham, jun., Esq., Edinburgh; Thomas Russell, Esq., ditto; Rev. James Blair, Stirling; Rev. J. H. Wilson, Aberdeen; James Durham, Esq., Edinburgh; James Inglis, Esq., Dunfermline; Rev. Dr. Peddie, Edinburgh; William Tait, Esq., Melrose; Rev. Mr. Aikman, Edinburgh; Rev. Dr. Ritchie, ditto; W. M'Crie, Esq., ditto; Rev. Mr. Campbell, ditto; Wm. Crosskill, Esq., Beverley; Wm. Smeal, Esq., Glasgow; Rev. John Sibree, Coventry; Thomas Burgess, Esq., Leicester; R. S. Bendall, Esq.; Wm. Crewdson, Esq., Manchester; Samuel Fox, Esq., Nottingham, &c., &c. For the greater portion of our report we are indebted to the columns of our contemporary, the *Scottish Press*.

On the motion of Mr. Cobden, the Lord Provost was unanimously called on to preside; and the meeting was opened by prayer by the Rev. Dr. Brown.

A numerous committee was then appointed for managing the Conference, with Mr. H. Richard and Mr. William Stokes as secretaries for the English committee; and Mr. William Miller and Mr. Henry Wigham as secretaries for the Scottish committee.

The Lord Provost, in opening the proceedings, explained for what purposes the Conference was assembled, and how far those who took part in it were agreed:—

It is well known to the gentlemen here assembled that the Peace Society consists of two sections—those who hold the principle that war in every form and for every purpose is unlawful, as being opposed to the precepts of Christianity, and to the whole spirit of the New Testament [applause]. Many members hold these principles broadly and strongly, and as unqualifiedly as it is possible to express them. Other members, again, do not hold these principles, but still cordially concur with the first-mentioned class in deprecating the war spirit wherever it may be found, and doing everything in their power to repress it—thinking that the armaments, not only of this nation, but of all the nations of the world, are far too powerful, and that they lead to war inevitably from the great preparations that are made respecting it. Although no doubt these preparations are said by our opponents to be made for the preservation of peace, still we believe that, however good the intention of these preparations are, they have the effect of fostering that war spirit. We believe that they lead to an enormous waste of national resources, in the employment of men who are not required for purposes that are really useful, and we agree that everything should be done in our power to promote the opposite spirit, to repress the war spirit, and to keep down these great armaments, and to act in such a way that no other nation in the world is likely to have a just cause of quarrel against us [applause]. Then, above all, we hold that the great means of preventing war would be an arrangement made between nations when they are in a friendly position towards each other, by getting clauses inserted in international treaties, providing that, if any occasion shall occur in which a dispute takes place which the parties cannot solve themselves, arbitrators shall be named in the treaties, to whom the questions shall be referred as they occur. In that way it is hoped that the feelings of bitterness and wounded pride, which often arise from trifling incidents indeed, and which are kept blown upon by those who wish to propagate the war spirit, would be nipped in the bud by these questions being handed over to arbitrators, who would decide them as they arose [applause]. Now, it is quite plain to every candid and unbiassed mind that there cannot be any inconsistency whatever in these two sections acting together, in so far as they are agreed [hear, hear, and applause]. No principle *is* sacrificed by any one. Each member subscribes to all the opinions held by the Conference, as a body; and these opinions are to be judged of, as ought to be the opinions of all associated bodies like this, not by the speeches either of the Chairman or of individual members, but by the business done, and by the opinions that may be found in the resolutions which the Conference may adopt. In this way both sections of the Conference, as I understand, act entirely in unison, and there is a very great deal to be done yet before we come to the point where we are likely to march off in different directions [hear, hear]. There will be time enough to decide what is to be done when these objects which I have put before you shall have been accomplished [applause]. We agree to differ on points on which all cannot agree, and the matter is perfectly understood. But we who, like myself, do not go the length of the non-resisting principle, treat with the utmost possible respect the opinions of those who do go that length [applause]—and to those who are disposed to treat that other opinion lightly, and to say that it is not inconsistent with Scripture principle to engage in war—to those who have not really examined the question—I would say that, if they would examine the question fully, they would find it very difficult indeed to answer the arguments which can be brought forward on that side. As for those who have studied the question, it would be of no use for me, or anyone else, to direct them on the subject; but if those who have not considered the question would read a portion of the essays of Jonathan Dymond on war, they would see that it is much more easy to rail at these opinions than to answer them.

The Chairman then recommended the avoidance of party politics and of anything like abusive or hard language. They were met not to attack men, but to vindicate principles.

Mr. Richard, the secretary of the London committee, having read the names of the M.P.'s present, and stated that there were delegates present from

almost every important town of England and Scotland, read a letter from Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., from which the following is an extract:—

It will not be in my power to attend the meeting as requested; but I am more convinced by what has occurred in Europe during the last twelve months, that the course suggested by the late Conferences is the proper course to be followed by sovereigns of states to avoid war, and it ought to be persevered in.

I would not say that all international disputes can be amicably adjusted by arbitration, but an attempt should in every case be made, and experience teaches us that in many cases such attempts have been eminently successful.

* * * *

If it be for one moment considered that the industry and finances of Europe are burdened with the payment of near two millions of unproductive men, who might be employed in productive industry, it must follow that the interest and welfare of every country would be promoted by the retrenchment and economy that would follow the adoption of arbitration.

In a letter expressing great regret at being unable to be present, Sir David Brewster says:—

The longer I live the more I am convinced of the necessity of a powerful association to plead the cause of universal peace and international arbitration; and I feel confident that the time is not far distant when war will be as impossible among civilized nations as duelling is among civilized men.

M. Visscher, of Brussels, whose indefatigable labours in the Peace cause are well known, was obliged to send a letter of apology for non-attendance, in which, after an allusion to the meeting of the first Continental Congress in that city five years ago, he says:—

Discouragements certainly have not been wanting during the five years that have since elapsed; but amid the indifference of some, and the raillery of others, I have been able to ascertain one fact, namely, a new signification has been given, a peculiar sense has been attached to the word PEACE.

This word has at this time a moral value far greater than at any period it ever had; it now comprises a system, a thought, which has already a germ of organization, and this it is which arrests and occupies the attention even of those who have not yet comprehended the greatness of the idea itself.

In Germany, where I have recently been travelling. I found that this idea of universal peace, and the remembrance of the Peace Congress at Frankfort, had been imbibed by many minds of the right stamp. The popular feeling has accepted this expression; Friedens Congress, as in France, and in Belgium, the name of Congress de la Paix, has become incorporated in the language. This is one of the results of the efforts of the friends of peace of Great Britain and the United States of North America. True, that it appears at present only as a feeble light; but this light suffices to show how profound is that obscurity in which the minds of men have remained so long plunged; gradually it will brighten and expand, until its rays of light shall reach to the farthest ends of the world.

I look upon these congresses, Sir, as an excellent means of impressing public opinion, when they are composed of numbers belonging to diverse nationalities, like our late Statistical Congress, which comprised delegates from twenty-seven states—they serve admirably to conciliate and draw people together, and strengthen those ties which make the human species one great amily, the father of whom is our Divine Creator.

Letters to the same effect were read from the Rev. J. A. James, Mr. Joseph Brotherton, M.P., Mr. T. Barnes, M.P. for Bolton, Mr. Digby Seymour, M.P. for Sutherland, the Mayor of Hull, Mr. J. Silk Buckingham, Sir Wilfred Lawson, Dr. Urwick, Dublin, Mr. James Kershaw, M.P. for Stockport, M. Cormenin, of Paris, and Mr. Varrentrapp, of Frankfort. Joseph Price, Esq., of Leith, the original founder in fact of the Peace Association, sent a large number of copies of the pamphlets of Mr. Jonathan Dymond and Mr. Clarkson, for distribution among the members.

Mr. Richard, having been called on by the Lord Provost, then gave some account of the proceedings of the committee since the last meeting at Manchester, in January. At that time, it would be recollected, the public mind had been wrought into a paroxysm of anxiety and terror, owing to an apprehension that this country was to be invaded by our neighbours the French [hear, and laughter]. To counteract this groundless xcitement was the first object of the committee, and with that view they resolved on giving the widest possible circulation to the pamphlet written by Mr. Cobden, at that time called "1793 and 1853." Accordingly they procured, in the first instance, a sufficient number to send a copy to almost every Literary and Mechanics' Institute in the kingdom: they then purchased 20,000 of a cheap edition issued by Mr. Ireland, at Manchester; in addition to which, they published a cheap edition of their own, of which about 23,000 were issued; and a recent edition, of a more superior kind, designed for libraries, had been distributed pretty widely among gentlemen whom they were desirous to interest in the matter—making a total of 47,900 put into circulation by the Peace Conference. Besides this, the different publishers had disposed of 38,000; and, as it had appeared *in extenso* in the columns of the *Times*—which represents, it is said, a circulation of 40,000—it would seem that not fewer than 126,000 of that most able pamphlet had been distributed through the country [loud cheers]. The committee also prepared a large number of smaller tracts and pamphlets showing the manifold evils, moral and financial, of war, and the total publications issued in furtherance of the movement throughout the country during the last nine months, was more than half a million [cheers]. But, besides this broad stream of peace literature, the committee had also organized a series of public meetings, extending over all the principal towns of England and Wales, which had been visited by deputations from the Conference, and which had been attended, many of them, by large and crowded audiences. One of the matters left in charge of the committee by the Manchester Conference, was the presentation of a memorial to the Prime Minister, in regard to the standing armies of Europe, and the wisdom and possibility of reducing them. This was presented on the 26th February by a large deputation, including sixteen members of Parliament, and was received by Lord Aberdeen, not only most graciously and courteously, but with evident favour. He expressed the most ardent desire for the attainment of the objects referred to, and said that by no other means could any Government more effectually promote the happiness of mankind. These opinions, he added, had not been recently adopted, but had been formed after a discussion ten years ago on the subject with his eminent friend Sir Robert Peel [cheers]. Another matter entrusted to the committee was to announce the proposal of a prize of £250 for the best, and £100 for the second best essay, either in the English, French, or German languages, on the Standing Armaments of Europe. And having obtained the consent of the Chevalier Bunsen to appoint examinators, they had issued the notice in France, Belgium, and Germany, in which they had been greatly aided by Mr. Visschers at Brussels, Mr. Varrentrapp at Frankfort, and M. Garnier in France. They next received intelligence from America, that certain treaties being under consideration for the settlement of the fishery dispute, their friends there had waited on the executive to suggest the insertion of a stipulation binding the two Governments, if any misunderstanding hereafter arose, to submit to the judgment of any impartial and competent arbitrator. This proposal was received by the American government with the utmost cordiality; and having waited on Lord Clarendon with the same object, his lordship received them with great kindness, but asked, as it was a novelty in diplomacy, for further time to consider. These treaties were not yet completed, and he (Mr. Richard) trusted, that when they were completed, it would be found that such a clause was inserted [hear, hear]. About two months ago, his friend Mr. Cobden, having had his attention called to the war in Burmah between the English and Burmese, one of the most unrighteous ever undertaken by any country [hear, hear], and having failed to obtain an opportunity to bring the subject before the House of Commons, brought it before the English public in the form of a pamphlet. He was happy to say the committee had succeeded in selling five large editions, which he earnestly hoped would rouse the opinion of this country against these wars of aggression and conquest which we are continually waging in India. In Manchester it had been proposed to raise a fund of £10,000—£8,000 of this had now been subscribed, to which he hoped that, before leaving Edinburgh, he would be able to announce a very considerable addition from their Scotch and other friends. One of the matters reviewed at Manchester was to have a Congress during the summer in some town on the continent. The committee, however, had come to the conclusion that, seeing that the public mind of this country was at that time so inflamed with warlike passions, that we were so mistrustful of our neighbours, and so anxious to add to our own armaments, to put ourselves in an attitude of defence and menace to the whole world, it would have been impolitic that they should attempt to go to the continent to teach the people of France and Germany to be at peace, when, in reality, they were far more pacific than ourselves [hear, hear, and a laugh]. And they, therefore, came to the conclusion that their business for the present was with the English people, to allay the warlike frenzy got up. For this purpose they determined — not because the Scotch were more warlike than others, but because they had never been in this part of the world — that the Conference should be held this year at Edinburgh rather than at Paris [cheers]. What the effect of their labours might have been during the nine months which had passed it was impossible for him to say. The work was necessarily slow, and like every one carried on by moral means, it was a slow educational process. But one thing was marked and manifest: a great change had been effected in the public opinion of this country on one point to which the labours of the committee have been especially directed during the past few months—he meant the panic of French invasion. They could now say, he thought, pretty confidently, that the panic was dead and buried—he hoped never to obtain a resurrection. At the time they assembled in Manchester, they were overwhelmed with abuse because they dared to say that the alarm was false and unfounded, but now the propagators of the panic were as much ashamed of hearing it mentioned as Sir John Falstaff was of the men in buckram [cheers]. There were now no rumours of Louis Napoleon contracting for war steamers at Glasgow, and that fabulous French frigate seen taking soundings along our coast had not been seen for some months [laughter]. The man formerly branded as a bandit and robber was now characterised as an excellent ally, whose faithfulness and loyalty cannot be exceeded [laughter]. One thing the committee are fully convinced of. While aware of the difficulties and perplexities of a momentary kind from the passions of other nations or their rulers, they rejoiced that their course was clear—that the principles they held were the principles of unchangeable everlasting obligation, and that it was their duty to go on proclaiming them. This they were resolved to do whatever scorn might be poured on their efforts, confident that they must prevail, and that now they were steadily advancing to a final consummation at last [loud cheers].

Professor M'Michael, of Dunfermline, moved the first resolution;—

That it is the special and solemn duty of all ministers of religion, parents, instructors of youth, and conductors of the public press, to employ their great influence in the diffusion of pacific principles and sentiments, and in eradicating from the minds of men those hereditary animosities, and political and commercial jealousies, which have so often been the causes of disastrous wars.

In a very logical and forcible speech, delivered with great emphasis and effect, he elaborated the idea that the military *profession* is inconsistent with Christianity, and with the personal responsibility of each man to his maker. In his adoption of the fighting trade, the soldier was necessarily required to surrender his moral as well as his physical powers; he must relinquish all idea of direct responsibility to God. The following extract is a specimen of the powerful reasoning and beautiful diction of the speaker:—

A soldier is a mere machine, a human instrument in the hands of his superior; he has no power over his own movements; he must obey all orders, and is reduced to the condition of a slave. The soldier and the Jesuit, much as they are opposed to each other in other respects, are here placed upon the same footing—obedience without reason; blind, unthinking, passive obedience. I am well aware that passive obedience is essential to military discipline. It cannot be dispensed with. Were the soldiers permitted to discuss the right and the wrong of a war in which they were to be engaged, it would be utterly destructive of the discipline of an army, it would defeat the very object for which it is organized. Obedience is the first, the middle, and the last lesson in the military school; and no small part of the training of a recruit is directed to break down his self-will, to make him conscious that his movements are all under the regulation of another, and that it is the duty of a soldier not to think but to obey orders. Now, the very necessity of this discipline is with me a reason, why no man having a proper conception of his own dignity and responsibility should enter a service where such tremendous moral sacrifices are required [hear, hear]. Man is a personal being, and he has to do with a personal God. Man does not lose his individuality by becoming one of a corporation. The responsibility for his actions is not removed because he is a unit in a regiment. In the great and terrible day of the Lord it will prove no sufficient apology for a work of murder, that the soldier had done it at the command of his superior, and that it was his duty implicitly to obey orders. Let us take a particular instance, and to make it more conspicuous, let it be the case of an officer, and in that department of the service where most mind is required. The higher the rank, and the greater the intellect, the deeper becomes the degradation of passive obedience, the more desperate the criminality; and, alas! the more terrible the punishment. The officer, from our point of view, is worse than the private soldier. He has a better education, and he prostitutes his mind to the work of human destruction. Here is a person upon whom God has conferred the rare gift of a mathematical genius. If properly cultivated and directed what an abundant source of pleasure to himself, and of benefit to mankind! It might be employed in the construction of railways by which the most distant parts of the world are brought into rapid communication with each other, and the prophecy of the ancient seer is realized, "and for stones they shall bring iron." It might be employed in flashing the trembling lightning along the wires of the electric telegraph, and thus making the glittering arrows of the Almighty a medium of intercourse between loving hearts, hundreds and thousands of miles apart. It might be employed in increasing the wondrous powers of the steam-engine; relieving man from many of his exhausting toils, and by its application to the printing-press sending light and knowledge to the farthest extremities of the earth. It might be employed in draining marshes, in supplying our towns and cities with water, and adding to the comforts, the health and happiness, of all classes of society. It might give us more magnificent conceptions of the Divine Being by its discourses in the far fields of space, and it might lay down rules derived from the starry heavens, by which the mariner is guided through the wild waste of waters, so that in the darkest night he knows where he is, and how near he is to his desired haven. How noble, then, how useful is science, when thus directed! But, in the same proportion, how debasing does it become when directed to human destruction! It is as if a chemist were to make use of his knowledge, not to cure the diseases to which humanity is subject, but to poison the springs of existence. The scientific officer improves his mind, cultivates his rare endowments, augments his knowledge of the laws of nature,—and for what purpose? That he may determine the precise direction at which these batteries may vomit forth their tempest of fire so as to destroy most property and kill most lives. For what purpose? That he may calculate the precise angle and force with which these shells may be sent up in the air that they may fall upon that particular dwelling which he knows is thronged with men, and exploding there may send havoc and ruin among them. For what purpose? That he may determine the exact distance at which he may bring up the horse artillery so as to effect most destruction upon that square of soldiers, and pour forth the iron fire upon that compact phalanx of men, until so many breaches have been made in their ranks by the incessant cannonading, that the signal may now be given for the advance of the cavalry, who are standing near impatient for the slaughter. The bugle sounds. They rush onward, they gallop upon these broken footmen like a whirlwind, trample them down under the hoofs of their war-horses, and hew them down with their swords as grain before the reaper. Great God! am I at liberty to devote my faculties to this infernal work? [hear.] Am I at liberty to improve my mental endowments to the highest possible point, and then to employ all the force of my genius to accomplish the work of human destruction? Am I at liberty, for certain pieces of money to sell my educated talent to a ruler, to execute such deeds of atrocity against men who have done me no personal wrong, and who, it may be, are fighting for their dearest liberties? [hear.] Was it for this purpose that God brought me into existence, stamped upon me his own image, and endowed me with amazing faculties; and have I a right to use those gifts to murder my own brethren, to send souls unprepared into eternity, and to bring down upon my head the curses of the widow and the orphan? And after I have done this fiendish work, can I lift my heart up to him who is the father of the fatherless, and the husband of the widow, and say, "Lord, I am not to blame for this horrid slaughter. I was only executing orders. I did no more than I was ordered to do by my commanding officer. I am not to blame." This pleading cannot be sustained. This Popish and military doctrine we utterly repudiate [hear, hear]. It is condemned alike by reason and by Scripture. There is no transfer of personal responsibility—no commanding officer can take my place in the day of judgment, for the havoc and the ruin which I wrought at his orders [hear, hear, and applause]. Every man must bear his own burden. Each one of us must give an account of himself unto God. Let no man, then, who is conscious of possessing a moral and immortal nature become a mercenary soldier. If war be a horrible necessity, let Christians have nothing to do with it [applause].

The Professor then dwelt upon the value of useful and honourable labour in the field of humanity, and the importance of every effort to get rid of the horrible necessity of war—if necessity it was. He appealed to ministers of the gospel, parents, instructors of youth, and conductors of the press, to aid them:—

If you are the friends of commerce, of reform, of cheap government, of human progress, you must be the friends of peace. And let us be deterred by no opposition. We must be successful. All good men are with us. We have the sound hearts and the sound heads on our side. We have on our side the men who are accustomed to look difficulties in the face, boldly to grapple with them, or overcome them. We have with us the men who fought the battles of the slave; the men who fought the battles of reform; the man who fought the battles of free trade; the man who began in a minority but who ended with a majority [applause]. We have with us the men who always begin in the minority and end in the majority [applause]. We can fight as valiantly and as perseveringly as ever, and assuredly the victory shall be ours. Yea, God himself is on our side.

Mr. Miall, M.P., who was received with loud cheers, seconded the resolution. He thought that, in a state of affairs like the present, when perhaps his views were opposed to those of the great bulk of his countrymen, it was safest in the long run to follow out the convictions of duty, whether in honour or dishonour, in good report or evil report, and to avoid the sure

punishment which eventually followed an attempt to fan the flame of a prevailing passion. If it must be so, he would far rather risk the ridicule and the obloquy of the rising temper of the times, than endure hereafter, but six short months hence, should hostilities unhappily occur, the reproach of those whose homes had been ruined, and of those whose prospects had been blighted, by war [loud cheers]. Although external signs might appear to indicate that the majority of their countrymen were opposed to the objects of that Conference, yet, possibly, were they to analyze correctly the prevailing and the predominant feeling of the times, they would find they had mistaken somewhat of the spirit and temper of their fellow-countrymen, simply from paying too much attention to that which forced itself to the surface of affairs. He was aware that the great majority of the public press, to whom reference was made in the resolution, had on this occasion, as formerly, fallen in with the military spirit; but he did not believe that the public press was on all occasions, and especially on this occasion, a fair representation of the judgment of their countrymen [applause]. After all, the writers in the journals were but few in number; and they were exceedingly apt to mistake the temper of the times. Besides, they followed each other to a considerable extent [laughter]. Nothing was easier, supposing the press to be well managed by those who had access to it, than to get up a popular excitement upon any subject in which the people might be thought to take a lively interest. Mr. Miall then referred to the various meetings lately held in England on the subject of the Eastern question, and said they were somewhat seedy affairs, possessing very little of that weight which was exhibited when the country was fairly interested in a question. From this he inferred that the people were not so interested in taking part for the integrity and independence of the Turkish empire as they had been for the accomplishment of free-trade. The utmost that could be said was, that there was a strong sentiment diffused throughout the country against the progress of absolutism in Europe; but he thought it would be wrong to interpret that vague sentiment as though it were a sentiment favourable to the adoption of a hostile and warlike course:—

Even if in the excitement of the moment, and in our generous concern for the extension of liberty upon the Continent, there may be many who would risk the consequences of war, I feel perfectly persuaded that if upon their individual determination rested the painful responsibility of provoking hostilities in Europe, even for the expression of such a sentiment as that, they would shrink from taking that step, and if it depended upon them would earnestly entreat their rulers to shrink from such a step also [cheers]. I am aware that our meeting together on the present occasion, and indeed on all former occasions, has invariably elicited the taunt of those who are so philosophical and so practical that they never have a theoretical notion of good whatever [laughter]—who are so accustomed to do, that they prefer to do it without thought [renewed laughter]—and who are so active and so material, if I may so express it, in their modes of going to work, that they scorn to be regulated by any general principle—I am aware that by such individuals this assembly and the Peace Congress is characterised as utterly unpractical, and the circumstances of the present times will no doubt be pointed to with a view to give still more force and pungency to this taunt.

After describing the warlike aspect of affairs on the Danube, he said that the Emperor of Russia had taken under his care and protection the Greek religion (by a kind of Papal aggression upon Turkey)—and was doing that in Turkey, or at least he wished to do that, which perhaps some wished to see done in Tuscany [cheers and faint hisses, which were drowned in the renewed cheers]. Mr. Miall next detailed the negotiations which had taken place on the Eastern question between the Great Powers. These were the circumstances under which the Peace Conference had met; and he would ask, of what earthly interest was the whole quarrel to this country? [cheers.]

When we go forward into hostilities, to assist our ally to maintain the integrity and the independence of the Turkish empire, and to uphold the balance of power in Europe, just permit me to ask what one rational reply can you give to the working-men of this country, after six months of hostilities and bloodshed, and after laying upon them large additional taxation, what reasonable reply can you give to any of them, who asks why you should have been so concerned about the interests of the Turks, when it was your first duty to be concerned about the interests of your own countrymen? [hear, hear.] This is a quarrel which, if we entered into it with a view to vindicate any large principle interesting to humanity, perhaps might enlist a larger portion of our sympathies than at present. But what one principle in which the world is interested, or in the recognition of which the progress of society is in the slightest degree concerned—what one principle is to be wrought out by the presence of our fleets in the Dardanelles, or by any hostilities that we may undertake for the support of our ally? Then, if our countrymen be under a delusion with regard to the whole tendency of the present aspect of things, does it not become us as men who profess to have another view both of the nature and of the consequences of war, and of warlike demonstrations—does it not become us to stand forward just at this the most critical moment, and to tell our countrymen what we think about this quarrel, and what we think about the settling of it by hostile means? Independently altogether of the effect which that may have upon the present time, I hold it to be in the highest degree reasonable and religious, that in all circumstances of difficulty and of danger we should confide in and make an appeal to the power of conscience. When men tell us that we are not practical, I say we are doing the most practical thing which men can do, who take their appeal from the excitement of present passion, up to the true sober judgment and conscience of society at large. It is impossible for us even at the present time to characterise war as it deserves, without producing some impression upon minds that will henceforth reap the benefit of it. It is impossible for us to scatter seeds of immortal truth, even in troublous periods like the present, without these seeds springing up and bearing some fruit We are justified by the experience of past times; we saw that the Conference held at Manchester last year produced as large an amount of ridicule and scorn, and that it was charged with as great a deviation from patriotic duty then as now. And yet the very parties who were then so earnest in their condemnation of the Manchester Conference, for not resisting what they were pleased to regard as the invasion of the French—the very same parties are now the parties who were most ashamed of that whole affair, and who are now taking up with the new cry against us—one which, perhaps, five or six months hence, they will be as anxious to disclaim as they were the former [cheers]. No, friends, it is not for us to waver when our principles are being put to the test [applause]. There may be some difficulties connected with our present position, but, be assured of this, that the safest way to accomplish great moral objects is to abide unswervingly by great moral principles [cheers]. Let us trust to the force and vitality of the truths that we have taken hold of, let us inculcate these truths whenever opportunity may serve, let us stand by them faithfully in the day of their trial, and we may hope hereafter to partake of their triumph [loud applause].

Mr. Cobden, M.P., was received with loud and prolonged applause. He commenced by referring to misrepresentations of opponents, who said the friends of peace were proposing to disband all their forces and thus invite the invasion of a foreign foe and lay the country prostrate at the feet of the first horde of brigands who chose to invade our shores. To such he would reply by a distinct profession of faith—he didn't believe that anybody was coming to attack us at all [hear, hear]. What they really had to fear was the peculiar idiosyncrasy of the English mind, which led them to go and seek grounds of quarrel all over the world. They have continually fought other people's battles, but with whatever intention, the only practical result which followed, was that they have loaded themselves with an amount of debt, greater than that of all the nations of the world beside, and that they were mistrusted, and not liked by almost every nation in Christendom. Now, if they could not be persuaded to go and attack somebody else, they were easily persuaded that somebody else was coming to attack them.

Now I beg it most emphatically to be understood that, when I attend these peace meetings, it is not that I wish to bow down our necks and invite the invaders to come amongst us; nobody intends to invade you, nobody wants to invade you; the quarrels which you have had, the wars in which you have been engaged, and the debts which you have contracted, have been all of your own seeking. And what I want now—and it was never more necessary than at the present moment—what I want now is this, to put a check, however feeble, on the tendency of a large portion of the people of this country who seem to me about to erect into a maxim for public opinion that which we have hitherto fancied only to apply to princes and despots,—our people seem to learn nothing and to forget nothing. And mind, when I speak of our people, I am not going to draw down upon myself the taunt or rebuke which would place me in so disadvantageous a position, that I am appearing here, conscious that I am opposing the direct and settled opinions and convictions of the great mass of my countrymen. No: the great mass of our countrymen in this question are now standing, observing, and ready to hear and learn, and to be convinced [hear, hear]. But I speak of men who will not hear, of those who would take possession of the public mind, and if they can aspire to represent the whole people, then the policy of the country must follow their dictates.

Mr. Cobden then referred at some length to the invasion panic of last year. From information, short only of information from the first parties acting in these proceedings, he knew that what had been done in the East by the Emperor of Russia was done from the deliberate calculation that it was impossible that France and England could unite to oppose him [hear, hear].

The Russian Emperor saw not only in the public prints of this country, but he observed in the speeches of our statesmen in the House of Commons, the expression of an opinion and feeling of mistrust and of horror of the character of the sovereign of our next neighbour, France. He saw that in the House of Commons we had made provision for calling out the militia, avowedly in order to resist a French invasion; he heard men who, we are now told, were the very trustworthy peacemakers of this country—he heard these men, and I heard them myself, say, that in one single night 60,000 French soldiers might come from Cherbourg and land upon our shores; we were told that for us, the peace party, to assume for a moment the possibility that the Emperor of France was not a brigand and a pirate, to argue for a moment that the French people were not capable of coming and throwing themselves upon our shores, without any previous notice being given, without any declaration of war, without any cause of offence, like a party of buccaneers or pirates—to assume that such was not their natural course of action, argued that we were the most credulous and foolish fanatics in Britain [cheers]. The Emperor of Russia heard and saw all this, and he naturally concluded that it was utterly impossible that the French and English could unite again to join in one armament to resist his encroachments in the east of Europe. And his plans have been laid in the southern parts of Russia ever since last September or October; ever since this cry began they have been steadily pursued; as this foolish spirit of hostility to our neighbours the French, came more and more to prevail in high quarters, they were the more determinedly persevered in; and now the consequence is, that this Emperor of Russia has found, when it is too late, that those foolish people whom he mistook for the public opinion of England have entirely misled him [applause]. What do we see now? The very Minister who talked of the French coming from Cherbourg in one night, with 60,000 men, to invade our coasts, I heard myself say, that now the French and English were united, and had one common bond of interest, and were united by sentiments of mutual confidence and esteem, they were a power against which it was in vain for Russia to contend, for all Europe would be powerless against such an irresistible combination [hear, hear, and great applause]. And what did I hear at the end of last session of Parliament in the Queen's speech, as if it was to give to you Peace party the climax of your triumph? Not only does the Queen in her speech in Parliament, ere it separated, declare that she is on the best terms of amity with the French nation, but she rather goes out of the way to add, that she is also on the best possible footing with the Emperor of the French [laughter].

By way of illustrating this question, he imagined the case of a person who had been sent on a voyage of health to Australia, and had just returned to this country without landing in that colony:—

He left England preparing her militia, and fortifying her coasts, general officers writing to me offering to lay a wager that the French would come and invade us [loud laughter and cheers]. And he saw our inspectors of cavalry and artillery moving about the southern coasts, deputations from the railway companies waiting upon the Admiralty and the Ordnance to see how soon the Commissariat and the Ordnance supplies could be transmitted from the Tower to Dover, or to Portsmouth; he left in the midst of all these preparations for the French invasion; he makes the circuit of the globe, and as he could see no newspaper—for one great motive in sending a careworn individual on such a voyage is to keep him away from politicians and the Post-office—he knows nothing of what has occurred during his absence. Well, he lands here in September, and the first thing he reads of in the newspapers is, that the French and English fleets are lying side by side in Besika Bay. He immediately says there is to be a great battle [laughter]—he turns to the leading article of the very paper that had told him before he had left the country that the French Emperor was a brigand and a pirate, and that the French people were about to invade England without notice or declaration of war—he turns to a leader in this paper—the very first he has seen after he has arrived in England—and there he finds that the English and French are so cordially united that their fleets are lying in Besika Bay, under the command of Admiral Dundas, that we are prepared, if necessary, to send an army to be put under a French general, and that we are going into action probably to-morrow, with the Russian fleet. Now, the first thing that he would naturally ask would be this—but can you trust this individual whom, when I left Britain, you were characterising as a brigand and a pirate? [hear, hear.] What has happened? Has anything happened to prove that these peace people have been right, and that you were wrong? What change has taken place? [applause.] What does this mean? What guarantee has this man given you that when you go into action with the Russian fleet, he has not previously come to an understanding with the Emperor of Russia, and that instead of joining you in firing broadsides into the Russian fleet, he will not join Russia in demolishing yours? [hear, and cheers.] And then, unless he has undergone a great change, and you have not explained to me how it happened, what proofs have you that when he has joined the Russian fleet in destroying yours, he will not come and ravage your coasts, burn down your houses, seize the bank, and carry off the Queen? [loud laughter]. Of all these things there is no explanation. I must confess, and I say it with the greatest regret, that my experience of late does not make me think more highly than I used to do of the ability of statesmanship in this country; because if these men, having the conduct of our public affairs, were in earnest in what they told us six or eight months ago regarding this Government and this individual, if they were in earnest, and not charlatans imposing on us from day to day, what is the meaning of this kaleidoscopic sort of exhibition? . . . If they were not in earnest, then what sort of a set of men have you got in power? [renewed applause.] I want to have their explanation about this. Well, now, we need not say any more about these people, because they are sufficiently humiliated. Why, don't you remember the caricature in which your humble servant was placed with very long ears, thus—[placing his hands to his head, amidst loud laughter] because he stood up and declared that he did not believe that the French were coming to invade us? Who has got the long ears and the fool's cap now? [roars of laughter.]

To the ignorance of the people of this country of their continental neighbours—to depreciation of their economical condition and moral qualities—was this foolish policy greatly attributable. After all, they knew little of their neighbours. The Spaniards, who had a great number of wise sayings, tell us that a fool knows less of what is going on in his own house, than the wise man does of that which is going on in his neighbour's. But now there were fools calling out for war with Russia about the Eastern question, and he confessed his amazement at the amount of ignorance regarding the Turkish empire exhibited by persons whom he would have expected, of all men in the world, to have had more knowledge of these affairs. Thus the sympathies of Englishmen—even of democrats—were reserved for the Government, not the population of European Turkey—for that dominant class which oppressed the majority of the people. What were they going to war about?

They are going to fight to maintain Mahommedanism in Europe; and I say that the Koran, that the laws of the Koran, are in direct opposition to the laws of nature, which are the laws of God [hear, hear]. And the people who have that Koran for their law cannot be perpetuated in Europe alongside of a Christian population. You have got in Turkey in Europe, three or four millions of Turks; and you have ten or twelve millions of Christians. Well, the Turks have been for 400 years the dominant race; they have had all the power in the country; they have administered all the laws; they are the sole part of the population that has been armed. The Christians have been treated like dogs—and are called dogs; they have had no social *status* whatever; the Koran acknowledges no relations between the Mahommedans and Christians but that of master and slave; either kill them, or make them pay tribute, is the distinct law of the Koran. Up to this moment there is no other relationship between the Mahommedan governors and the Christian subjects than that which I have described. Well, in spite of all that, what is the state of matters at this moment? The Turks are a decaying people; as Lamartine said—and if any man was favourable to them, it was Lamartine—"Turkey is perishing for want of Turks." Notwithstanding all these advantages, I say Turkey is declining, its population is diminishing in number, while the

Christians are constantly increasing by their side. But not merely so, all the wealth—all the accumulation of wealth, all the enterprise, all the intelligence, all the progress, whether moral or material, belong to the Christian population of European Turkey. Now you may hear of a race—of a superior race—governing an inferior race, as in the case of our own Indian empire; but you never yet knew, and you never will know, a race perpetuating the rule over another where these conditions are all reversed, and where that race is the more ignorant, the least wealthy, the least enterprising, and altogether, in every respect, by which you could mark the progress of power in a people, inferior to those whom they pretend to govern. Well, now, this being the condition of things, the Emperor of Russia steps in, and he says, "I intend to insure to these Christians in Turkey in Europe the same treatment—I intend to insure to these Christians under the authority of the Porte, the same treatment which Christians having the protection of the French Government have in Turkey." Well, that is what he asks, and England steps in, and France steps in, to resist this, and to advise the Sultan to oppose it, because they say Russia meditates some selfish and aggressive designs [hear, hear]. That is very true; but let me tell you that the people of this world—that is, the unprivileged masses of all countries—have ever gained their privileges and franchise by being lifted up by some nobles, or by some tyrants of kings, who had sinister objects in trying to enlist their sympathies [hear, hear]. They wanted to gain something out of them; and it was by catering for the sympathies of the millions by nobles and kings in this country that the masses of the people were lifted from their serfdom into citizenship [applause]—and, no doubt, the Emperor of Russia has the same sinister object in view. He wishes to establish an *imperium in imperio* in Turkey, and I have not the least doubt that he will succeed. From all I can learn, the Christians are glad to get increased and improved toleration and security against Mussulman wrong and violence, be it by the intervention of Russia or anybody else. Take one fact which has transpired since this hubbub began. It has come out that, until Russia made this interference, the Christian population of Turkey in Europe could not give evidence in a court of law against a Mussulman for murder or theft, or any one who committed any act of violence, either in the family or on the persons or property of any of them. That is a state of society worse than even negro slavery in America. But we are told, that since the intervention by Russia, an edict has emitted from the Sultan giving to the Christians the right to give evidence against a Mussulman in a court of law. Does anybody doubt that the Christians will attribute this great boon they have received—a boon which, for the first time for four centuries, gives them the rights of citizenship—to the intervention of the Emperor of Russia? [hear, hear.] My opinion is, that from the first, there has been a great mistake in this matter. If we intended to interfere in the matter, we should have done what I believe we will come to do yet. We should have joined Russia in insisting on the fullest religious liberty and perfect social equality for the great majority of the Christians in Turkey in Europe; that is, if we interfere at all—for my opinions are too well known to render it possible for me to disguise them. What I would say is, leave them to themselves; but, if you interfere in any way at all, the only practicable way in which you could hope to accomplish any good is, to join with Russia, as you have joined with her when you were not one whit more sincere than now, in obtaining those rights and franchises which the Christian people of Turkey demand.

He challenged Lord Palmerston to make good his assertion that, during the last thirty years, Turkey had made more progress than any other country during the same period :—

Now, I say, where are the proofs of that? [loud cheers.] Consult any writer who has visited Turkey. Consult Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, who, when he left the Embassy on leave of absence, eighteen months ago, was entertained by the British population at Constantinople to a banquet, and who there referred to "the corruption which eats into the very foundations of society, and a combination of force, fraud, and intrigue, which obstruct the march of progress, and poison the very atmosphere in which they prevail." And, again, he alludes, with the profoundest grief, "to the signs of weakness and error which surround him—to the financial embarsassments of the Government—and the great charter issued by the present Sultan being discredited by the non-execution of its promises." This is the opinion of a grave, sedate, and long-experienced diplomatist, speaking in public; and if he could say as much as that, and if every recent writer on the subject, up to the latest, gives the same opinion, what must the present condition of Turkey in Europe be?

If our Government had engaged to support Turkey they were bound to do so; but they were *not* going to have war :—

Wars do not happen on the Danube in November or October. We have got till April at least; and in the meantime, all this matter will be so changed in position, if not totally reversed, that we can take a new choice of attitude upon the Eastern question. The sooner the people of England understand the position of Turkey the better. It is not a question of Russian invasion on us. It is an invasion, no doubt, on an unoffending power. Russia has no quarrel with the Turkish Government; but is it on that ground we are called upon to exercise vengeance upon Russia, because Russia encroaches on Mahommedan power in Europe? Why, we have ourselves got the Great Mogul, a Mahommedan sovereign, who rules over three times the dominion of the Sultan, divested of his authority, and shut up as a puppet in Delhi. We have trampled down as large an empire in Burmah, and with as little ceremony as a ruffian would go into the market-place and kick down an apple stall [laughter and cheers]. Are we, who do these things in the face of the world, to exercise God's vengeance on any other country for doing the same things? [loud cheering]. No! That is not a ground that we can take up. I hope there is not hypocrisy enough extant to say that we are bound to go to war to prevent injustice to the Mahommedans in Europe, when we have done far worse to Mahommedans where they are more at home—I mean in Asia.

He could state emphatically that there was no treaty in existence binding them to fight for the integrity of the Turkish empire. They were not bound to interfere either internally or externally. They were bound not to violate the treaties they had made, by unsettling the settlement to which they had been parties; but they were not bound to fight to preserve those territorial arrangements, if other people choose to interfere with them. It had been settled with regard to the greatest territorial treaty that ever was entered into—the treaty of Vienna—by which the whole boundaries of Europe were defined—that they were not bound to go to war to maintain the integrity of the countries whose boundaries were fixed by that treaty. It was said they were bound to go to war to defend their ancient ally [laughter]. They had more treaties with Russia than with Turkey, and they were not bound by any treaties whatever to maintain Turkey, any more than to maintain Tuscany, or Holland, or any other power [hear, hear]. Divest the question of these points that touch the honour of the nation, and then you bring it to what it really is—to a question of self-interest. To this part of the question he would refer at length on the following evening. Mr. Cobden resumed his seat amidst enthusiastic applause.

Mr. Hadfield, M.P. for Sheffield, moved the second resolution, as follows:—

That as an appeal to the sword can settle no question on any principle of equity and right, it is the duty of Governments to enter into treaties on behalf of the nations they respectively represent, binding the parties, instead of assuming an attitude of armed and mutual menace, to refer to the decision of competent and impartial arbitrators such differences arising between them as cannot be otherwise amicably adjusted, and to abide by such decision.

He referred to the insignificance of the pretences which had originated the Burmese war, and the recent Greek quarrel; and then drew attention to the fact, that the principle of arbitration clauses in treaties had been adopted by three of the States of America—Maine, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Referring to the immense standing armies of Europe, amounting, in the whole, to four millions of men, he contrasted the more favourable state of matters in America, which had only 13,000 soldiers.

The Rev. Dr. Brown, of Dalkeith, seconded the resolution with arguments familiar to our readers.

The resolution was carried unanimously, after which the Conference adjourned till the evening, at seven o'clock.

EVENING MEETING.

The Conference resumed at seven o'clock—the platform and the hall being crowded.

Mr. Charles Cowan, M.P., was unanimously called to the chair. He expressed his approbation of any attempt to diminish the chances and horrors of war, and rejoiced that their platform was wide enough to contain all who felt an interest in the question. One reference in his speech occasioned some excitement:—

I repeat, that I do not agree, perhaps, with some of my friends around me for whom I entertain the highest possible respect. I hold that the defence of ourselves and of those who are dear to us—that the defence of our Queen and country, if they should be attacked—is a most sacred and imperative duty [loud cheers]—and I wish to go just one step further, as the subject is now exciting the greatest possible interest in this country, and to say (and I hope that I am not offending any individual in expressing what are merely my own sentiments), that if a demand has not yet been made for the release of our fair fellow-countrywoman in Tuscany, I do not know what means I would not use——[great laughter and applause]. Allow me (said the honourable gentleman) to finish the sentence. I say that I have no wish to go to war with the people of Tuscany; but I hold that we are bound to make such a demand as I have indicated for the release of our fellow-countrywoman who is now confined in a cell by that miserable miscreant who unhappily rules and oppresses fair Tuscany [some hisses]. I hold, further, that such a demand ought to be followed up, not by war, but that we ought to take such means as we can employ to procure the liberation of Miss Cunninghame [hear, hear].

The hon. gentleman then quoted one or two examples of the desire existing upon the Continent for a more liberal commercial intercourse with this country; and proceeded to argue, from the abolition of the custom of duelling, that the temper of the times was every day becoming more favourable to the objects which they had in view.

The Rev. John Burnet proposed the next resolution:

That the Standing Armaments, with which the Governments of Europe menace each other amid professions of mutual friendship and confidence, and which have greatly increased even during a time of peace, being a prolific source of social immorality, financial embarassment, and national suffering, while they excite constant disquietude and irritation among the nations, and jeopardise the continuance of Peace, this Conference would urge upon the Governments the necessity of entering, by mutual consent, upon a simultaneous reduction of their armaments.

The resolution which he moved was opposed to war in all its forms; but he would wait for a moment to ask what they meant by their decided opposition to war. Questions of an extreme kind were very frequently put to them. "Would you allow a man to murder your brother before your eyes, and not defend him?" That was not war, but a personal assault; and every man, by the laws of this country, was bound to assist in preventing a personal assault. That way of putting the question was only for the purpose of perplexing: and it would be very easy to perplex the war party in a similar way. We must think broadly and wisely as men, and not play at riddles and cross-questions like children. He concurred with those who assailed the profession of arms, but in supporting the resolution which he had moved he felt more disposed, he confessed, to attack the people. He came there to attack them all [laughter]. He came to say that they were all wrong, and that, but for them, there would be no soldiers and no war. He wanted to know who would pay the price of a campaign if the people put their hands into their pockets and said, "We will give nothing." But for your contributions standing armies would not stand long [applause and laughter]. There were two methods of carrying on war, that of fighting with muskets, bayonets, swords, &c., and that of blockading a garrison and starving them out. Now he would have the people blockade the Government whenever they got into a war, and starve them out [laughter]. Stop the supplies, and they would learn peace very soon. They would agree with you provided you did not pay them for differing with you [laughter and applause]. After giving a humorous definition of a standing army, which appeared not to supply the position of emolument or respectability, he went on to describe the effect which a standing army in one country had upon other countries. Mr. Burnet went on at some length to urge the propriety of mutual disarmament on the part of nations, and explained the society's principle of arbitration. He concluded with some remarks on the great importance of giving full circulation to their opinions.

Mr. Bright, M.P., was received with enthusiastic applause. Whatever might be said respecting their movement, it was, at least, evident that they were not so cowardly as to shrink from the utterance of those opinions which they believed essential to the permanent welfare of the country. They had had thirty-eight years of peace, and every year the speech from the throne congratulated the country that we were in a state of the most delightful amity with all the nations of the earth. During that period immense material improvements had taken place, education and locomotion had extended, and industry had made rapid progress.

Everybody had been in the habit of saying that everything that added to the triumphs of peace makes the probability of war the more remote; and yet, while these were the maxims, if not adopted, at least propounded, by statesmen, these very statesmen, while propounding these maxims, were constantly adding to the permanent forces of the respective countries which they governed. While they asserted that the probability of war was annually becoming less, the expenditure has increased to an incredible amount [hear, hear]. It is stated on good authority that the nations of Europe are spending more than one hundred millions per annum—I suppose that it is probably a great deal nearer one hundred and fifty millions per annum—in maintaining armaments which they all along tell us they don't intend to use. If military expenditure increases, as a matter of course taxes must increase also; for all this military expenditure must come out of labour, and the sweat of men who toil from sunrise to sunset, and to whom all their labour gives but a very moderate share of the necessaries, and none of the luxuries, of life [applause]. And taxes and expenditure are generally followed by something approaching bankruptcy. Loans are constantly being required. It is not long since Russia required a loan; and it is a hundred chances to one but Russia must come for another loan in a very short time. The expenditure she is contracting now, although she is not actually engaged in war—an expenditure which is wholly unnecessary—which comes merely from an ungovernable ambition—that expenditure will force Russia to come for another loan. The loans of Austria are just as many and as often as Austria can find dupes to lend her anything. I have here a memorandum of the deficits of the Austrian revenue since 1846. In 1847, the deficit was £700,000; in 1848 it was four-and-a-half million sterling; in 1849 it was twelve millions; in 1850 it was more than five millions; in 1851 it was more than six millions; and in 1852, more than five millions—the whole of the deficits of Austria in those six years being upwards of thirty-four millions, or an average of £5,700,000 per annum. Now, you may conceive—no, you cannot at all conceive it—but you may endeavour to imagine to some extent what must be the pressure of taxation upon a people where the deficit is annually going on at this rate. As it is impossible for the Government by any turning of the taxing-screw to obtain sufficient from the people to make up the deficits, the Government comes continually to the various monied capitals of Europe and asks them for a loan; and I see in the papers of yesterday or to-day a statement that the Austrian Government has just made an offer for a loan of seven millions sterling to a great banking or monied firm, and there is a very curious condition attached to it, that is, only to be lent in case Austria does not go to war [hear, hear]. Well, then, France is partly in the same circumstances—not so inexplicably involved, because, whatever opinion he entertained of the absolutist Government of France, there is in that country a vast production, a fine soil, a fine climate, and a people actively engaged in producing articles of great value; but still it is rumoured that France finds herself so involved that a new loan must be asked for. Then we come to this country—we are not asking for loans yet; but if we allow Turkish semi-barbarism, and men of infirm understandings and of robust consciences—[hear]—to drive this country to war, you will see the Government coming for a loan; and then you may bid adieu to further years of reduction of taxes, and Mr. Gladstone's next visit to Scotland and to Manchester will not be at all one of that cheerful character which it has so lately been, and such as, I believe, he is now enjoying [applause].

England has made prodigious strides in the arts of peace and industry, and there is from year to year a greater feeling of accord springing up between the Government and people, and yet, in spite of propitious circumstances, and the less need of standing armaments, this country was, he believed, adding more to its military expenditure every year than any nation on the face of the earth. He then compared England with the United States :—

I spoke, the other day, to an American gentleman, who adverted to the fact that the United States had so large a surplus revenue that they did not very well know what to do with it—whether they would at once pay off all their debt, or whether they would expend the surplus in making a great railroad connexion between the Atlantic and the Pacific. He contrasted the state of his country with the condition of ours. He said, "Your twenty-eight millions of annual interest on the national debt is an incredible sum. Twenty-eight millions a year! We cannot comprehend it—it is not to be reckoned in dollars and cents" [laughter]. "But," he said, "I reckon there will come a day when England and the United States are about neck and neck, and the twenty-eight millions upon the industry of the United Kingdom will tell something against you in your race with the United States" [hear, hear]. But we are not content with the

experience of the twenty-five years' conflict to which I have referred. In this very year, in 1853, after thirty-eight years of peace—every year making war less probable—we are spending seventeen millions of the taxes of the United Kingdom in the maintenance of our army and navy. We are not content with this even. We are occupiers and rulers of a vast empire in Asia; and under the Government—the joint hocus-pocus Government of the Board of Control and the East India Company—we take from the people of India a gross sum of twenty-nine millions per annum in taxes—from a people who do not get more than 2d. or 3d. a-day of wages, who have no steam engines, who have a rude agriculture, who have no roads, who are deprived of almost every advantage which in this country we have in being a great producing country. We take from them a gross revenue of twenty-nine millions per annum, being a nett revenue of twenty-three or twenty-four millions, and spend twelve millions of it in military armaments in that country—so that, adding together the sums that we now pay every year for wars past, and in preparations for wars to come, namely, twenty-eight millions of debt, and seventeen of expenditure here, we have forty-five millions; and, with the twelve millions of military expenditure in India, taken from the taxes of the people of India by the power of this country, we have a total of fifty-seven millions sterling per annum; yet it cannot be denied—I suppose it is not to be denied—that we are a Christian country. But look at our progress since 1835. We spent in that year eleven millions upon our army and navy; we spend now seventeen millions. We had been at peace from 1815 to 1835—a period of twenty years—and then we found eleven millions to be sufficient [hear, hear]. From 1835 to 1853 we raised our military expenditure from eleven to seventeen millions per annum—being an increase of six millions a year; and in India, the expenditure, which, when the last Charter Act was granted in 1833, was eight millions, when it was passed last session amounted to not less than twelve millions, so that, in this country and India, we are now spending ten millions a-year more in military affairs—being all the while in profound peace — than we were expending sixteen, eighteen, or twenty years ago.

Our seventeen millions of warlike expenditure, thrown into a principal sum, at the rate of three per cent. would amount to not less than five hundred and sixty millions—a sum equal in value to all the lands and all the buildings in the county of Lancaster. The whole rateable property in England was, in 1847, but sixty-four millions sterling; and if they took sixteen or seventeen millions per annum as their military expenditure in times of peace, they actually in four years appropriated the whole valued income of all the lands and buildings in England in order to meet their naval and military expenditure.

Well, if this is not very astonishing, it is just because we are so constantly hearing of it; but when we come to a saner moment—when we become a more enlightened people—when we become in any degree what we profess to be, a Christian nation, then our posterity will look back on these times with wonder and astonishment. They will say, were there no churches in 1853? were there no chapels? were there no ministers of the gospel of peace? [hear.] What were these men doing all the time? Were they splitting hairs? Were they disputing whether baptism should be by the sprinkling of an infant or by the immersing of a grown man? Were they disputing whether it was lawful to burn candles on the altar? Were they disputing as to the precise amount of labour a man might do or might not do on the Sabbath? [hear and cheers.] What were the ministers and your people about? Were your sects, your professing Christian sects, hunting each other to death? [hear, hear.] Why were they not rather awakening the people to this gigantic and incredible evil, and endeavouring to wipe away from this Christian nation the heaviest disgrace that has ever attached to it? [loud cheers.] But the mere expenditure is nothing. What are taxes? Whence comes the gold by which you pay your income-tax and succession-tax, your impost and custom-house duties, which cause you to pay double the price for many of the things you consume? It is the labour of all this population you meet day by day in town and in country—men suffering under all weathers and under adverse circumstances. What class is it that the pestilence sweeps down? Not the class that is comfortably off, but the class which is the lowest in society, whose labour is the most severe, and whose toil is the most unrewarded, who pass from the cradle to the grave, and know little of those many comforts which many of us every day enjoy. That is the class which are pressed into poverty, misery, violence, and crime, and all the evils to which man can be subjected, and pressed with an infinitely heavier screw when a government extorts from the people an amount of taxes which are not absolutely necessary for the service of the country [hear, and loud cheers]. We may wonder—every man who is taught by Christianity the character which gives to the Creator of the world wonders—this time why there is so much misery and wretchedness and guilt in the world. But why don't men look to it, that, if you are to expect that men should be happy, it can only be inasmuch as they follow out those natural and just and Christian principles which are laid down for their guidance; and if we who are more comfortable and well-to-do—we, the educated and influential classes of society—shut ourselves up in our comfortable homes, and fancy that all goes well, and that we have no need whatever to take any care or thought of politics—if we allow the Monarch or the Parliament to trifle with the wealth and industry of the country, we may be well assured that below our feet there are vast masses of sorrow and misery which we might alleviate if we could not remedy, and which, if we neither alleviate nor remedy, will some day or other become an element in society dangerous to our own peace and comfort, and dangerous to the institutions under which we live [cheers]. Well, then, why should we not look at this question as a great practical question? Our forefathers have done many things in this country, and we have done some things; why cannot we do this? The Emperor of France may say, "I cannot reduce my army to 200,000 men; my position is not very secure. I have not the prestige of a venerable, ancient monarchy like England." Austria may say, "I have Lombardy on the one side and Hungary on the other." But we can say none of these things [cheers]. We have a Government which men respect. We have a monarch, perhaps, yea, certainly, who will bear comparison, and favourable comparison [enthusiastic and prolonged cheering]—with any, or with all, of her predecessors on the English throne [continued cheers]. We have a people more united, I undertake to say, at this moment with regard to the law—more united, as a nation—than we have ever had at any former period of our history. We have no necessity for a force to keep down the people, and to enforce obedience to the law: and yet our Government, by a succession of tricks, by juggling the people, by the people permitting themselves to be frightened now by one story then by another, have persuaded the people to permit them to raise our military expenditure from eleven to seventeen millions a-year, from 1825 to 1853.

Our militia, that unnecessary force, costs between £500,000 and £600,000—just *double* the estimate. Thousands of officers were thus created over the country; all this patronage was in the hands of somebody, and it was no doubt used for political purposes in every possible way. Then we paid £46,000 for troops in the colonies, and we had 6,000 or 8,000 troops in Canada, where the people were as well off as the middle classes in this country. All this required inquiring into:—

We are really becoming one vast lunatic asylum every two or three years. There is always some great claptrap question got up, and we are expected to run after it; and we know that if it can be got up, there cannot be a better excuse for Government giving us no Parliamentary Reform next session. Just now there is a great talk about draining towns. Now, suppose we again brought down our military expenditure to eleven millions, what a great deal might be done with the six millions in the way of draining our towns, or erecting our public buildings. All this, and a hundred other things, might be undertaken, the very least of which is infinitely better, in my view, than all the greatest glory that we could possibly have from the most glorious war [cheers]. I am quite ashamed to belong to a country which conducts itself as if it were a tribe of Red Indians. We never bury the hatchet—we never give up war, or, at least, talking about it [hear, hear]. Why cannot we be, at any rate, as rational as the United States? They have got a population of from twenty-four to twenty-five millions; and I have no doubt that by the next census their population will be equal to that of the United Kingdom. And it is a fact, taking into consideration the expenditure of the federal and the general Government of the American Union, the expense of the thirty-two or thirty-three States of the Union—taking into account all that they spend for the payment of duties, the support of education, and the cost of the army and navy—the whole annual expenditure of that country is not more than fourteen millions sterling. We spend upon the army and navy alone three millions sterling more than the American Union spends for all their civil and military, general, state, and educational purposes, with a nearly equal population; and with a far greater extent of territory, and a trade nearly approaching to ours [hear, hear]. I would like to ask you now, did you ever meet an American who felt himself less safe in the world than an Englishman does? [applause.] Did you ever know an American case pleaded in any Court of Europe—I do not mean a court of justice, I mean a court of royalty—that met with less respect than the case of an Englishman? Did you ever know that, whether it was in Austria or in Tuscany, or anywhere else, an American was less secure than an Englishman? [cheers.] Is this country or America less prosperous and peaceful—are they making less strides than we are doing in all that is great and noble? How comes it that the millions of Englishmen, Irishmen, and Scotchmen, who have settled in the United States, and their successors and their children—how comes it that they can carry on the government of that great republic for fourteen millions per annum, whilst we spend seventeen millions on our warlike armaments alone? [hear, hear]—and all the while declaring in every Queen's Speech that we live in entire and perfect amity with all nations of the world [cheers]—our statesmen declaring, too, that every year of peace adds to security for peace; and every statesman, too, whenever he makes a speech before the public, telling you that they are all for peace [cheers]. Lord Aberdeen is for peace [cheers]. I believe him. Lord Palmerston is for peace. I don't believe he wishes to go to war [langhter]. These men don't want war at this moment. I believe honestly that the Government is endeavouring to avert the horrors of war. But, although they don't want war, they allow themselves to be the promoters of a false opinion, and the servants of that great and powerful interest which we have allowed to grow up in this country [cheers]. And whilst they tell us in Parliament and out of it that peace is their object, and that almost at all hazards they will preserve peace, they still insist upon it that sixteen or seventeen millions sterling a year is the very lowest upon which they can maintain a peace establishment [loud cheers]. Three thousand years hence, when they dig up anything that belongs to this country, it will be very much like the Nineveh marbles. There are the chariots of war, with their scythes, and there are captives in chains; and there are all the indications of the horrors of war—the tyrant and the slave, the powerful lord and the humbler sufferer. We have not got much farther than that, and have scarcely made one single bit of progress [cheers].

Mr. Bright sat down amidst great cheering.

Bailie Fyfe seconded the resolution.

Mr. Samuel Bowley, Gloucester, proposed the fourth resolution, which was to the effect—

That the Conference, believing that the intervention, by threatened or actual violence, of one country in the internal politics of another, is a frequent cause of bitter and desolating wars, maintains that the right of every State to regulate its own affairs should be held absolute and inviolate, and that this country ought to abstain from any treaties or alliances binding the Government to interfere by force of arms in the domestic concerns of any other people.

He said he was one of those people characterised as fanatics, who believed that all war was against Christianity [applause]. He was not afraid even to meet their excellent chairman in discussing the question whether war was consistent or inconsistent with Christianity, and whether Christianity ought to be practised in all its integrity [applause]. He was at variance with their excellent chairman in the spirit with which he would go to Tuscany. He would not call the Duke of Tuscany a miscreant [cheers and some hissing]. He did not think that was gentlemanly [laughter]. They could not ask for the liberation of this good woman, without shaking their fist in the face of the Duke of Tuscany, and that he did not approve of. She was entirely under the operation of Tuscan law. How was it that those individuals who sympathized so much with Miss Cunninghame in Tuscany had no sympathy with individuals who, week after week, and month after month, were in jail in this city, because they could not conscientiously pay church-rates? [loud applause and some hissing.] Let them set the Duke of Tuscany a better example than shaking their fists in his face. This lady endeavoured to disseminate doctrines opposed to the ruling power there. It was not long since a certain ruling power wished to give a title to Cardinal Wiseman in this country. Now, suppose Cardinal Wiseman had said that he thought it was his duty to accept of that title as proceeding from his religious superior, and that he should have been called upon by the law of this country to pay a certain sum as a fine. Cardinal Wiseman, however, said that he could not pay that money conscientiously.

Mr. W. Biggs, M.P. for Newport, seconded the resolution. He thought that the connexion of this country with Turkey was not only profitless in a business point of view, but that it was immoral and a sin before God; for a nation more degraded and brutalized by their brutalizing faith than that of Turkey never existed. This country was maintaining Mahommedanism and slavery in that country by the course they had pursued.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

The Conference adjourned shortly after ten o'clock till to-day at eleven.

THURSDAY MORNING.

The Conference met at 11 o'clock, the Lord Provost in the chair.

The Rev. George Johnstone (Nicholson-street Church) then rose to propose the fifth resolution:—

That the present system of governing India and the colonies of this country, having a direct tendency to foster a military spirit, to encourage an extravagant military expenditure, and to involve the nation in a constant succession of dishonourable and cruel wars with the native races, eminently unfavourable to the true progress of religion, civilization, and commerce, this Conference is of opinion that the whole system ought to undergo a speedy and thorough revisal.

He stated that he most heartily concurred in the objects of this Peace Conference, and that he believed he spoke the sentiments of almost all the brethren connected with the church to which he had the honour to belong, when he stated that the objects contemplated by this Conference had met with their hearty sympathy [applause]. He accepted the principle of the Peace Congress in all its integrity. He went the whole length that the gentleman went last night who moved the resolution that was then carried [applause]. He held this principle in reference to defensive as well as offensive war [renewed applause]. He held all wars to be unjust, unreasonable, and inconsistent with the justice of sound policy; but, above all, he held all wars whatever to be utterly inconsistent with, and in direct antagonism to, the spirit and precepts of Christianity [applause].

Mr. Joseph Sturge, in seconding the resolution, stated that Mr. Richard Allen, of London, a friend of the cause, but who was unable to be present, wished that one or two points should be taken up. One of these related to the question of international communication between the people of England and those on the Continent. The great thing was to bring the people of different countries to understand each other, not through diplomacy, but by means of direct communication; and when once this was done they might rest assured that a great deal had been done towards abolishing war [applause]. Another point which Mr. Allen wished to see taken up was the education of the young. He himself felt the great importance of this subject the longer he lived. They all knew how difficult it was to eradicate old habits after they had arrived at manhood; but the young mind was more easily impressed; and he thought it was the duty of the friends of peace to take steps to inculcate a knowledge of their principles amongst those attending school, by tracts and otherwise. He believed that the contributions they would receive in Edinburgh would enable them to turn their attention to this subject, and to circulate tracts amongst the children of Scotland. He held in his hand a publication called the "Band of Hope," embellished with illustrations. 80,000 copies of this publication were circulated every month. It was on the right side in questions of peace, temperance, and other good objects, and they had found a very great advantage from introducing it into schools in England.

The Rev. G. W. Conder, of Leeds, in supporting the resolution, said, that he had during the last six months the pleasure of ascertaining the state of public feeling on the Peace question throughout a large and important district of England; and he could assure this Conference that he had been agreeably surprsed, though somewhat sanguine, both at the amount of, and at the character of the response which the utterance of peace sentiments had met with in all the large towns in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

They were often asked, "What do you peace men want?" Everybody, it was said, admitted that peace was desirable, and that it was the teaching of the New Testament; but they were anxious to know if the peace party had anything beyond a general talk about peace. Now, he thought, they should distinctly and categorically answer this question, and show that they had a thorough string of the most practical objects before them. The mere spreading of the sentiment of peace should be recognised as a thoroughly practical thing [applause]. Their principles had been most grossly exaggerated. It had been, for example, stated that they were for throwing down all their armaments, for bowing down to a foreign foe, and for sending word to the Emperor of the French that they are waiting to be invaded. He had never heard any proposal so absurd. What they proposed to do was to make a public sentiment in England which would very speedily dispose of all the prac-

tical difficulties of the thing. He had been sometimes asked, "Suppose they had no army in England and France, what, did he think, would become of his arbitration principle, and how would he succeed in keeping the Emperor of Russia out of Turkey?" He contended that such questions come either from the most utter and unthinking ignorance of all that the Peace Conference proposed to do, or else from a dishonesty that was most disgraceful and contemptible [applause]. Suppose before the time of railways in this country, an engineer had a locomotive before him, and that another person should fail to see how it would succeed, and should ask how he was to get it to run up a hill, and so forth. The reply of the engineer would be that the individual who asked these questions showed that he knew nothing of the principle upon which he was to proceed, and that he should not be in such a hurry to show his ignorance. He (the engineer) meant to make a road to fit the engine, and when that was done the person objecting would see how it would work [applause]. It was so in regard to the arbitration principle. They did not believe their arbitration principle would work practically at present, but they belived that by their peace meetings they were making a road of public sentiment on which that arbitration principle would work [applause]. And by and by they would have so accustomed Christian nations and heathen nations to understand the humanity of the peace principle and the barbarity of its opposite, war, and so bring them to see that it was for their interest in an economical point of view that these nations would discover a way on which the arbitration principle would work, without an armed force to back it [cheers]. He did not pretend that the thing they were advocating was a thing which was to be established in the world at once. It would be the first good thing that ever so succeeded, and they were not the enthusiasts to believe that that principle would be planted in the midst of the nations by any easier road than that by which every good thing had to fight its way in the world.

Mr. Conder then stated that the only way to put an end to tyranny and oppression was by abolishing standing armies, as these were the swords of despots; and that although they might have to wait for a while ere they succeeded, yet if they were earnest and persevering in their advocacy of the principles of the Conference, they were sure to succeed, and that perhaps sooner than they expected. They had the assurance of ultimate, and perhaps not distant triumph. (The reverend gentleman resumed his seat amid loud applause.)

Mr. James Bell, M.P. for Guildford, who came from Germany to attend the Conference, also supported the resolution. When on the Continent he had picked up a book, in which he found it stated that Haynau's proceedings were sanctioned by what England had done; and that the proceedings of the Emperor of Russia were also sanctioned by what this country had done in India. It was a fact that there was no nation in the world that had annexed more territories, or had displayed a more grasping spirit, than England had done. Mr. Bell also complained of the many evils in the government of India, which resulted from the employment of military men in civil business; and concluded by observing, that England had, by her conduct, exposed herself to the reproach of her neighbours in Europe, and had shut her mouth from being able to utter a word of advice or counsel to any other civilized nation, whether that nation be France, America, or Russia.

The Rev. Mr. Renton, Kelso, who was present at the Cape of Good Hope when the late Kafir war broke out, also supported the resolution. He stated that that war was a dishonourable and a cruel war upon the native races at the Cape, and fully bore out what was stated in the resolution. When standing in the midst of the Kafirs at a time when they were highly excited from the carnage which had taken place, he had been a dead man had he attempted to act upon the resistance principle, or had he been armed. Although he was utterly unarmed and defenceless, so far as carnal weapons were concerned, he was able to speak to the chiefs, to the head men, and to the common men, as calmly as he did here. When it was deemed an act of merit, and almost an imperative necessity, to kill a white man, yet when these Kafirs came to a place where there were two or three white men who would not fight, or who would not wrong them, they laid aside their arms, and came in and met them on a perfect equality, and listened with patience and calmness to anything they had to say. He confided in their word, and found them strictly honourable. He was struck with finding that it was the latent opinion of both Kafirs and Hottentots, that it was not the British people they were fighting with, but with a portion of that people—with, to use their own words, the riff-raff portion of the people—with the scum of the sea. This was the designation they applied to the colonists on the frontiers. The native races were firmly convinced that the war was one of pure injustice. It was no doubt stated that it was the humane object of the Governor to protect the native races from the colonists, who would otherwise exterminate them; but that object had been utterly surrendered at the conclusion of the war; for he found that the rebel boors, the men of European extraction, and the most dangerous enemies which this country had at the Cape, had, according to the terms of the treaty concluded, got a monopoly of arms and ammunition, and that the lives of all the surrounding tribes were at their mercy.

Mr. J. B. Smith, M.P., made some remarks upon our military expenditure in Canada—a colony where the commonest labourer was earning 4s. a-day:—

Why should they call upon the inhabitants of this country, whose wages are as low as 2s. a-day, to furnish them with a naval and military force? [applause.] We have now given Canada free institutions. Canada has institutions even more free than we have. We have given them, besides, all the crown lands. We cannot give one yard of land in Canada. We have even, during the last session, given them the clergy reserves [applause]. Well, the only power the Governor-General in Canada now has is this—the luxury of vetoing any act of the Legislature. And for this we are put to the expense of this military establishment! Why, there was a Parliamentary Committee appointed about two years ago to inquire into the ordnance and the naval and military stores, and it was found that in Canada alone the amount of your ordnance stores was £600,000 in value. This is surely an enormous store, even in time of war; but to think of that in a time of peace, and in a country who has no enemies!

Mr. H. Vincent, who was exceedingly well received, next addressed the Conference. He felt it his duty, as a warm friend of the peace movement, to take upon himself the share of any odium which might attach to the profession of peace principles. He felt that, when so many men were urging the English Government to war, on the ground that war might be conducive to the general liberties of Europe, it was incumbent upon him—who did not hesitate to declare himself a Christian democrat in politics—to protest against that argument. He took up two points with great effect—the vast social and moral benefits of the commercial spirit, and the extreme absurdity of secret diplomacy. On the latter subject he said:—

He thought the time had come when the commercial spirit of the country would say, "Away with secret diplomacy, and whatever is done affecting the lives and liberties of the world, let it be done openly and above-board." He did not pretend to understand the Turkish question, and he did not think diplomatists understood it themselves, or they would have explained it; but he did understand how workmen, shopkeepers, merchants, manufacturers, and all employers of labour, would begin to ask the question, "What would war cost?" They would see that it would injure their prosperity, increase their taxation, perhaps raise their income-tax from 3 to 10 or even 15 per cent. Though this might be a vulgar thought, that Congress would be the means of directing attention to it, and in a few weeks he believed the enlightened opinion of the shopkeepers, manufacturers, and all who were interested in the substantial prosperity of the country, would be in favour of peace, and opposed to war [hear]. On the question of liberty he lamented the condition of the continent, which was under the domination of the priest and the soldier; but he asked if there was much proof of wisdom on the part of those who said, "Oh, if we had only had Lord Palmerston at the head of affairs, would not he have given them a drubbing?" He would not have given them a drubbing on the side of liberty. Where was Poland, that stood as a breakwater against the aggressions of Russia? Dead—without any intervention to save her fall. Where was Rome? Lord Palmerston did nothing to prevent its occupation by a French army. Where was Hungary? Fallen without any intervention. It could be proved that, in an indirect way, our Government encouraged the organized attempt at reaction in Europe. He believed Lord Aberdeen had been actuated in this Turkish question by the honourable desire to save this country, if possible, from the direful calamities of war.

The resolution having been put to the meeting and carried unanimously, Mr. Richards intimated that several donations had been received since yesterday, among which were the following:—Mr. King, Rochdale, £60; Mr. Yates, Liverpool, £50; — Martindale, £40; Lord Provost of Edinburgh, £10; W. Tait, Esq., £10—besides numerous donations of £5 and under.

Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P. for Ashton-under-Lyne, moved the sixth resolution as follows:—

That as every measure that tends to remove obstacles to the free intercourse of nations is an additional guarantee for the preservation of peace, this Conference recommends its members to employ all their influence to promote cheap international postage, the general adoption of the same standard of weights, measures, and coinage, the removal of commercial restrictions, and the assimilation of the mercantile and commercial laws and usages of all civilized nations.

Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., M.P., seconded the resolution, which was supported by the Rev. Dr. Massie, who said he often felt grieved that those who, in the relations of society, stood much as he did himself—ministers of religion—generally did not come so prominently forward, in order to advocate the principles of peace, as he thought they ought to do. Satisfied was he, that the time would come when not only ministers of religion, but Christians in general, would be ashamed of themselves, and of the state of feeling and tones of sympathy by which they countenance, not merely the maintenance of standing armies, but the cultivation of the art of war [hear, hear].

Mr. W. F. Collins, editor of the *Hull Advertiser*, then addressed the meeting with considerable effect.

Mr. Edward Smith, of Sheffield, said that in that town a war meeting had been got up, but not one of the magistrates, or clergy, or principal mercantile men attended it. In fact, he found great difficulty in ascertaining who did get up the meeting. Though they did not attach very great importance to it, a value was attached to it elsewhere, and accordingly the mercantile men in the town got up a memorial to Lord Aberdeen in a few hours, signed by fifty of the first mercantile firms and leading and influential merchants of Sheffield, praying the Prime Minister to resort to every means to avoid war, and to continue that dignified forbearance by which the honour of England was best maintained. It was the interest of mercantile men to prevent war, and he would advise those mercantile and manufacturing friends present to endeavour to get up similar declarations to Government.

After a few words from Dean of Guild Blackadder, the resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Benjamin Parsons, of Ebley, proposed the following resolution:—

That this meeting desires to acknowledge with sincere gratitude the earnestness, energy, and skill, with which the Edinburgh Committee made all the preparations for this Conference, and for their great exertions to contribute in every way to the comfort and satisfaction of the strangers who have visited their city.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Thomasson; and the Lord Provost, before putting it to the meeting, said that the whole of the merit was due to a few individuals who had borne the most of the labour, the chief among whom were Mr. William Miller and Mr. Henry Wigham.

The resolution was passed with applause, and Mr. Miller returned thanks.

Mr. Cobden here rose, and said he thought there was very great advantage in their endeavouring to make the soirée on Friday night as successful as possible. They could make acquaintance with each other; and if a new cry of French invasion should be got up, they had the organization of good men throughout the whole country, they could bring themselves simultaneously to act upon all the burghs and counties of the kingdom, and they would thus become a formidable body, such as no minister would sneer at, and call fanatics again [applause].

The Lord Provost then vacated the chair, which was taken by Mr. Joseph Sturge, while the following motion was submitted by Mr. William Crosskill, of Beverley:—

That the sincerest thanks of this meeting be presented to the Right Honourable the Lord Provost, for the great judgment and ability with which he has presided over this Conference, for the kind and generous welcome he has accorded to its members, and for the cordial manner in which he has lent his great personal and official influence, in promoting the objects of the Conference.

Mr. Crosskill made a few remarks complimentary to his lordship, and the position which he held as chief magistrate of the city.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Richard, the secretary of the London committee, who said that he felt his position greatly strengthened by the enlightened and valuable aid he had received from his lordship.

Mr. Cobden proposed three cheers for the Lord Provost, and acted as fugleman.

The Lord Provost briefly and gracefully acknowledged the compliment. In the success of the free trade agitation he found an augury of their success in the peace movement. The people who then said the thing was impossible, was absurd, monstrous, that it would ruin the country and throw the land out of cultivation, were the loudest afterwards in praising the same thing under the more euphonious name of unrestricted competition [loud laughter]. He ventured to predict that though it may not be so rapid—he did not think himself it would be so rapid—he had the most unbounded confidence that the principle would grow, and ultimately overcome all opposition. Believing, as he firmly did, in the Scriptures of truth, he was often amazed how men can appeal to these records, and throw ridicule upon the present cause, when they remembered that one of the prophecies that they had, and which he for one most sincerely believed, that the time will come when men shall learn the art of war no more. If men would learn no more the art of war assuredly the cause of the Peace Conference would then be promoted [hear, hear].

On the motion of Mr. Cobden, votes of thanks were given to the two gentlemen who had so effectually fulfilled the duties of secretaries, Mr. Richard and Mr. Stokes, after which an adjournment took place till seven o'clock in the evening.

[*The report of the Public Meeting appears in another part of our paper.*]

ANTI-SLAVERY CONFERENCE.

Pursuant to the announcement made in the *Anti-Slavery Reporter*, a meeting of Anti-slavery friends was held in the committee-rooms of the Music Hall, Edinburgh, on the 16th of October, the day following the termination of the Peace Conference. A considerable number of ladies and gentlemen were present from different parts of the country. The chair was occupied by John Wigham, Esq. Mr. L. A. Chamerovzow then addressed the meeting, and gave a general exposition of the principles and modes of action of the various sections of the Anti-slavery party in this country, dwelling especially upon the necessity of promoting the growth of cotton in India, and of British Christians repudiating the course pursued by their co-religionists in America. He stated that the principal question for the consideration of the Conference was as to whether a World's Anti-slavery Convention should be held in London next year.

The Rev. Mr. Ballantyne thought that if the proposed Convention were to be attended by practical issues, it would be desirable to hold one. He suggested that a deputation should be sent to the United States to ascertain the real condition of the churches.

Mr. Henry Wigham thought that unless the platform was made broad enough to contain all Anti-slavery men, it would not be wise to hold the Convention [hear, hear].

The Rev. Henry Richard suggested that the proposed Convention should be delayed until the year 1855, when it was contemplated to hold a Peace Congress in Paris; and that another Conference should be held in the course of next year [cheers].

Mr. Joseph Sturge expressed his concurrence in these views.

After a few remarks from Mr. T. B. Smithies, the Rev. F. Bishop expressed himself in favour of English abolitionists taking energetic action against American slavery. Having visited the Southern States, he could testify to the truth of the repulsive scenes and iniquities attributed to the peculiar institution. He thought that abolitionists should refrain from calumniating each other, and referred with deep sorrow and regret to a foul and unjust attack on William Lloyd Garrison, published in the columns of an influential organ of the Independents [hear, hear]. One part of the accusation particularly was wickedly untrue [hear, hear]. As long as such slanders were insidiously spread abroad by professed abolitionists, it would not be possible to have union or strength in the British anti-slavery party [cheers].

The Rev. G. W. Conder proposed a resolution recommending that a Conference should be held next year.

The Rev. Mr. Ballantyne seconded this resolution, which was unanimously carried.

MR. GLADSTONE AT MANCHESTER.

The inauguration, on Wednesday last, of the Manchester statue of Sir Robert Peel, was marked by much ceremony, and excited great public interest—an interest which was greatly enhanced by the presence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The statue has been erected in front of the Royal Infirmary. A vast number of people of all ranks assembled. We have not space to describe the formal proceedings, which were conducted by all the leading authorities of the municipality, nor to report the speech which was made by Sir J. Potter in inaugurating this public tribute to the memory of one of England's greatest statesmen, but the words which were uttered by Mr. Gladstone on the occasion demand a place in our columns. He spoke as follows:—

This is a great occasion—it is an occasion that tells of much besides that which it exhibits to the eye. In the first place, it is impossible not to reflect that there are still, unfortunately, countries in Europe, notwithstanding the general mitigation of laws and governments, where, when we speak, on the one hand, of governments, and kings, and statesmen, and, on the other hand, of the people, we speak of two powers that are adverse and alien to one another—without sympathy, without a consciousness of their community of interest; but when we stand here, we see the statue of a man who was the chosen Minister of the Sovereign, who enjoyed her unbounded confidence, who had a place not only in her councils, but in her heart [hear, hear]; who was the defender of the laws and institutiont of the country, but who was likewise the chosen favourite of the people [hear, hear], and whose name has been engraven, as I firmly believe, upon every heart of the thousands, of the myriads, that now surround me, because of the acts that he performed, and the benefits that he conferred upon England. As one who has deeply profited, not by the example only, but by the guidance of that great statesman—as one who has had, and I hope has valued, many opportunities of appreciating his character—let me venture respectfully to bear testimony to you upon the point which, so far as I am able to judge, beyond all things distinguished him. It is easy to enumerate many characteristics of the greatness of Sir R. Peel. We all know the immense breadth and comprehensiveness of his understanding; we all know that he, beyond all living statesmen, and perhaps beyond all statesmen who preceded him, thoroughly understood the workings of our noble constitution, and appreciated and sounded to the very depths the feelings and the character of the greatest deliberative and the oldest popular assembly in the world, the British House of Commons [hear, hear]. It is easy to speak of his ability, of his sagacity, of his indefatigable industry; but, great as were the intellectual powers of Sir R. Peel, if you will allow me, as one who may call myself his pupil and his follower in politics, to bear my witness, this I must say, that there was something greater still in Sir Robert Peel—something yet more admirable than the immense intellectual endowments with which it had pleased the Almighty to gift him—and that was his sense of public virtue; it was his purity of conscience; it was his determination to follow the public good; it was that disposition in him which, when he had to choose between personal ease and enjoyment—or, again, on the other hand, between political power and distinction, and what he knew to be the welfare of the nation, his choice was made at once; and, when his choice was once made, no man ever saw him hesitate—no man ever saw him hold back from that which was necessary to give it effect. I heartily rejoice that, in erecting to his memory this great and worthy monument, you have chosen for it a site which is most in harmony with the histories it is intended to commemorate, and with the ideas which it is calculated to awaken. You have not placed it in some gilded hall, where it might have been the admiration of some connoisseur in art, or might have been visited by the wealthy and the luxurious classes; but you have chosen for him the place where he would have wished to be, in the face of day, in the greatest thoroughfare of this mighty city, in the heart and centre of the commerce of England, where thousands and tens of thousands will from day to day pass by the place where he stands, and have presented to their eyes and to their minds a spectacle which can awaken in them no sentiment except one of public virtue and of grateful recollection. And, Mr. Mayor, it is the last word which I will address to you when I say this,—may God grant that many of those who shall traverse this crowded thoroughfare, as they eye the work which has been this day delivered over to your custody, may have awakened within their breasts the noble and honourable desire to tread, each for himself, in his own sphere, be it wide or be it narrow, the path of duty and of virtue; and in discharging those functions which appertain to us as citizens, to discharge them in the spirit of that great man—the spirit and the determination to allow no difficulty, no obstacle, to stand between him and the performance of his duty,—relying upon it that duty in this country is the road to fame—that if public men do not reap their reward, as in barbarous times they may have sought it, from immense and extensive possessions, measured upon the surface of the earth, they reap it in a form far more precious, when, like Sir Robert Peel, they bequeath a name which is the property not only of their family—not only of their own descendants—but of every man who calls himself an Englishman—a part of our common wealth—something that helps to endear us to our common country—something that makes us feel that England is indeed a country that it is a blessing to belong to—a country that has a great and beneficial part to play in the designs of Providence for the improvement and advancement of mankind [loud cheers].

The second division of the day's proceedings was the presentation of three addresses of welcome to the Chancellor of the Exchequer from the Mayor and Corporation of the City, from the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures, and from the Commercial Association. These presentations took place in the large room of the Town Hall, on a platform placed at the end of the hall next the council chamber, under the presidence of Mr. Barnes, the Mayor. Mr. Gladstone replied to the several addresses in one long and highly eloquent speech. After referring to that part of the corporation address which expressed the belief that party consideration had been wholly disregarded in the formation of the present Cabinet, Mr. Gladstone came to the great question which at the present moment pre-eminently occupies the public mind. He thanked the people of Manchester for the confidence they had expressed that the Government now in charge of public affairs would endeavour to give effect to such measures as should most conduce to the honour of the Crown and the benefit of the whole community:—

No doubt the blood of Englishmen is up when they see oppression or aggression going on; no doubt the contest of stronger with weaker appeals to those feelings which we feel to be eminently national; no doubt the lapse and consumption of time without apparent result is trying to the patience of the community; but, let me venture to say this—that the true, the truest measure of the real greatness of a people lies in its power of self-command and self-restraint. That self-command and self-restraint, whether in nations or individuals, are always liable to be mistaken for, and are also certain to be charged as indifference, as feebleness, or as cowardice. We know, I trust, the difference—we know that that dignified patience, and that sense of duty as men and as Christians which makes us value peace, does not mean a want of readiness to vindicate, when the time comes, the honour of this country [hear, hear]. What do we mean when we speak of a general war? There is a certain glare of glory about the operations of war which appeals to some of the elements of human nature, and makes us too little mindful of the fearful accompaniments which it entails [hear, hear]. When we speak of general war, we don't mean real progress in the road of freedom, the real, moral, and social advancement of man, achieved by force. This may be the intention, but how rarely is it the result of general war! We mean this:—That the face of nature is stained with human gore—we mean that bread is taken out of the mouth of the people—we mean that taxation is increased and industry diminished—we know that it means that burdens unreasonable and untold are entailed on late posterity—we know that it means that demoralization is let loose, that families are broken up, that lusts become unbridled in every country to which that war *is* extended [applause]. If that be a true description, then it is also true that it is the absolute duty of a Government to exercise for themselves that self-command which they recommend to others, and to labour to the very utmost for the adoption of any and every available expedient for averting such a frightful scourge [applause]. I am certain I could have anticipated it before, but at this moment I have no doubt, after the manifestations you have given, that these are the sentiments which animate the peaceful community of Great Britain [cheers]. Those who are associated together in the works of industry and enterprise; those who, as practical men, come into close relation and close observation with the working of a public policy; those who know the dangers we are encountering know the difficulties we have to meet, and by their confidence we shall be supported [hear]. It has been announced in Parliament more than once, by different members of Government, that her Majesty's advisers are well aware of their duty to maintain that which may be truly called the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire. But in speaking of the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire, we do not use those terms in the same sense as we should speak of the integrity and independence of England and France ["No"]; because we know that the independence of the Ottoman Empire describes a sovereignty full of anomaly, full of misery, and full of difficulty—a sovereignty whose affairs from five years to five years, and ever since we were born, have commonly been subject to European discussion and interference [hear, hear]. What I mean is, that we do not intend to settle this important matter upon the deep questions which may develop themselves out of the peculiar internal organization of the Ottoman Empire; for, so far as regards the domination of the Sultan, we are presented with the political solecism of the Mahommedan faith exercising what may be called a despotism, but which I will only call a domination—a sovereignty—over twelve millions of our fellow Christians [hear, hear]. We don't mean to enter into that question, growing out of such a state of things; but that there is a necessity for regulating the distribution of power in Europe where there is a certain absorption of power by one of the great potentates, which would follow the fall of the Ottoman Empire, which would be dangerous to the peace of the world; it is the duty of England, at whatever cost, to set itself against such a result [great cheering]. Now that principle has been recognised in all the discussions on which all the measures that connect themselves with this great Eastern question now depend [applause]. Having made that recognition, and having laid down the principle that it is not right that there should be an absorption of power, and that, in the event of that taking place, it is the duty of the Government to set themselves against it, I may express a trust that so long as a rational hope can be maintained, we shall have a maintenance of peace [applause]. Now, that is what the Government have really done. There has grown up in Europe of late years a principle to combine these great Powers by the settlement of differences arising in particular parts [hear]. Many benevolent persons have been desirous of bringing about a system of international negotiation in the event of war. But it is an opportunity upon which I think we may observe, not without satisfaction, that some degree of real progress has actually been made and exemplified within the last twenty years in the history of Europe towards the substitution of arbitration for war [cheers].

Mr. Gladstone here adduced the instances of Belgium and Holland, the civil war in Spain, the war between the Sultan and the Pacha of Egypt, and the settlement of the Greek question, all of which showed the value of pacific intervention, and concluded by observing on this head that if the result of negotiation is the saving of the effusion of human blood, and the averting that calamity which would disturb the operations of industry and deprive nations of their subsistence, surely the sacrifice of time was small, and surely the reward was adequate. The last part of Mr. Gladttone's speech was devoted to the domestic policy of the Government. Reference having been made in the proceedings of the Manchester Council to the subject of the paper duties, Mr. Gladstone frankly admitted that the excise duty levied upon the paper in which packages of cotton goods were made up, might just as well have been laid upon the commodities themselves, and he hoped, "when the proper time arrived and circumstances permitted it," that the duty on the material of which those wrappers were composed would be removed as well as the duty on the staple manufactures. Respecting the income-tax, he recapitulated the Government scheme for its extinction in 1860, and trusted that Government had secured to the people, through their representatives, the power of doing away with it when that time came. Mr. Gladstone concluded his speech as follows.—

With regard to the prosperity of all classes of this country, I believe it is perfectly true that, though we have arrived now at a time when the price of grain has become very high, there is not, so far as I am aware, one single voice which has been raised in murmur, from one end of the country to the other, on account of that high price [hear]. These high prices are paid with contentment because they are the result of the wisdom of the Almighty—of that inclemency of weather which he has seen fit to permit; and the intelligence of the people knows the cause, and there is no complaining, and I think it is not going too far to say that there are many among us who are glad that the farmers, and especially those who are happy enough to have good crops upon the ground, have got their turn at last.

From the Town Hall some eighty gentlemen adjourned to the "Mayor's parlour," and partook of luncheon.

Mr. Gladstone was present on Thursday at the consecration of a new church at Denton, by the Bishop of Oxford. This church has been built mainly at the cost of the Reverend Mr. Gresswell, Mr. Gladstone's friend. Lord Robert Grosvenor and the Countess of Wilton were present at the ceremony. A luncheon, garnished with complimentary speeches, followed; and the company proceeded to the site of some new schools, the foundation-stone of which Mr. Gladstone and the Bishop of Oxford were to lay.

The whole of the interior of the beautiful Temple church has been entirely cleansed and renovated during the vacation. The directors of the Crystal Palace Company availed themselves of the opportunity—with the consent of the master and benchers—of securing casts of the ancient recumbent monumental figures contained in the sacred edifice for exhibition in the Crystal Palace at Sydenham.

The City Commission of Sewers recommend the Court of Common Council to purchase, for the purposes of a cemetery for the city of London, a plot of ground near Ilford, consisting of 120 acres of land, at present forming part of, and cultivated as, a farm, and having a farmhouse and buildings on it. This is offered at the rate of £150 per acre for the freehold, and the sum of £2,500 for erecting new farmhouses and buildings in place of the present, which will be destroyed. The lessee, who holds for an unexpired term of six years, will have to be compensated, and he has signified his willingness to surrender his interest on terms to be settled by reference. This ground is situate about seven miles from London, and is immediately adjoining the Eastern Counties Railway, from which a siding may at once be run into the cemetery.

The Middlesex magistrates have appointed a committee to consider the propriety of applying for an act of Parliament for powers to erect and maintain one or more county Industrial Schools, for the reception and care of destitute and criminal children—with powers to communicate with her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department on the subject.

The Thames police-court reporters have discovered "a sensible drunkard." A "stout, well-dressed, and rather consequential gentleman," who gave the name of Edward Pitman, advanced to the front of the table allotted for solicitors, and a policeman got into the witness-box, saying, "that gentleman is a drunk and incapable charge, and he refuses to stand in the dock." Mr. Pitman: I do. I am not a felon, though I was certainly *bacchi plenus*.—Mr. Yardley: If you have an objection to stand in that dock, where persons charged with being drunk and incapable are generally placed, you had better keep sober in future. Let me hear the case.—The policeman said that Mr. Pitman came up to him staggering, at an early hour on Sunday morning, in Rosemary-lane, and said he was drunk, and wished to be sent home in a cab. He told the defendant there was no cab-stand nearer than the Minories. Mr. Pitman then said, "I am drunk, and unable to take care of myself, and I have money about me; take me to the station-house." He did so, and the defendant, who was "staggering drunk and incapable," was locked up.—Mr. Yardley: The prisoner did the most prudent thing I ever heard of a drunken man doing. I fine you 3s., Mr. Pitman, which you cannot object to pay.

FATHER THAMES.—The Thames collects the waters of 6,160 square miles of country, and the great body of this water flows and reflows through London in tides. How changed its character since the days when Sir John Denham wrote of it as, "Though deep, yet clear!" It is now (says a severe critic) the receptacle of all the sewage of more than two millions and a quarter of people, and the vile and poisonous refuse of the works in which they are engaged, besides a not very easily estimated supply of all the putridity which the animal and vegetable decomposition of the metropolis can furnish. With London proper for the centre of oscillation, this material is swung backwards and forwards as the tide rushes up and down with results which all patrons of halfpenny, penny, and twopenny boats must be prepared to anticipate. The "simmering waters" of this illusive river are constantly giving off their foul and pestilential gases.

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